



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 21.11 Thursday, March 12, 2015

Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

FREE

Belleville gets \$50,000 judgment against it over car

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

David Goerlitz of Sumpter Township left his 1994 Mustang with his friend in Belleville to fix while he went to New York, where he was employed installing vinyl siding on new family housing at Fort Drum Army Base.

When he came home he found the friend had been driving his car and got arrested for drunk driving -- third time offender -- by Belleville Police.

That was in 2007. As soon as he heard, Goerlitz went to J&T towing to get his car and he was told the Belleville Police had to sign off on it. It was evidence in a crime.

He went to see the police chief twice and was told twice that the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office was filing paperwork to take the car through forfeiture. His car was not being returned, so don't bother calling, he was told.

But, the Prosecutor's Office didn't file forfeiture on the car, the Belleville Police didn't sign off on the car, and J&T Crova kept the car seven years -- at \$20 per day storage fee.

Goerlitz, now 32, went on with his life until last summer when he was informed by mail his car was considered abandoned. J&T Crova towing reported to the Belleville Police that it was declaring the car abandoned and the police department was supposed to send that on to the Secretary of State for bill of sale. Notice was sent to the owner and secondary parties.

They sent Goerlitz paperwork that said if he did nothing he was responsible for the storage fee for his abandoned car.

That's when Goerlitz called Belleville attorney John Day who filed a petition with the 34th District Court. Goerlitz had a right to a hearing and they had the hearing.

Day said usually for an ABAN hearing

(continued on page 15)



Ryan Youmans, left, got the most votes at Thursday's Soup Project, earning a \$500 check from the Belleville Downtown Development Authority. Belleville Mayor Kerreen Conley, center, and DDA Chairwoman Rosemary Loria present the check. Ryan's project was "The Belleville Area Museum Spends a Day on the Lake."



Presenters at the Soup Project included Ryan Youmans, Keith Sanders, Mackenzie Winter, Marissa Bracey, Alexyia Yost, Ivy Gitzen and Ashley McNally (not named in order).

Ryan Youmans wins Soup Project for his 'Day on Belleville Lake'

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Ryan Youmans got the most votes for his plan to offer the public a day of canoeing

on Belleville Lake on Oct. 3, with a side trip to the Belleville-Area Museum for a history lesson about the lake.

His plan was one of four presented by high school students on Thursday at the 2015 Soup Project, a joint project of Belleville High School New Tech, the Belleville Downtown Development Authority, and the City of Belleville.

(continued on page 17)

Court Watching:

Koenig bound over for alleged assault on VBT ordinance officer

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

After a preliminary exam on March 4 before 34th District Court Judge Brian A. Oakley, Paul Koenig, 49, was bound over to circuit court for a March 18 arraignment on the information.

The charge against Koenig was assault with a dangerous weapon and the judge approved the prosecutor's request to add a second charge, assaulting or obstructing a public official.

The weapon was a dog, which never left his master's residence or touched the victim.

The only witness to testify was Van Buren Township Ordinance Officer and Fire Fighter David Schuler.

He appeared in his ordinance uniform with badges, patches, and a radio, which he said was like he wore last summer, only with short sleeves in the summer.

He said on Aug. 28, Lt. Charles Bazzzy asked him to check out an address in the 13000 block of Martinsville Road for ordinance violations, since the other ordinance officer, Bob Queener, was off and he wanted an update on the case.

"I always stop a few houses down and review the case," Schuler testified. He said Queener had written about the open violations.

Schuler said he was driving a blue Chevy Silverado with a large township marking on the side. It did not say "ordinance," he said.

He said he pulled up in front and grabbed his camera. No one was around and he said he thought nobody was home.

He said as he walked up the drive a gentleman started screaming from the window, accusing him of trespassing. The man said Schuler had no right to be on his property.

Schuler said he was warned to leave or the man would set the dog on him.

"I felt threatened," Schuler testified. "I grabbed the radio to send a message to the police department. The back door was opening."

(continued on page 10)

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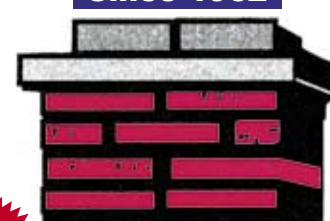
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SECOND FRONT PAGE

Romulus Chamber names Pearl Varner Person of the Year

By Mark Lewkowicz

On Dec. 14, the Greater Romulus Chamber of Commerce surprised Pearl Varner of Van Buren Township by letting her know that she had been selected to be the 30th Romulus Person of the Year.

The committee knew where they would find her in order to make the announcement. She was at the Romulus Historical Museum where she has served as the Museum Director since she was appointed to that position in 1996.

The selection was announced to the community at the Romulus Chamber of Commerce January Business Luncheon. She will be honored at a dinner that will be held on Saturday, April 25. The public is invited to attend.

Pearl was selected for her commitment to the growth and preservation of the Romulus Historical Society. She makes sure that the museum complex is open every Sunday from 1-4 p.m. The museum is only closed in the event of inclement weather, or on a major holiday weekend. Pearl has often made the comment that her family knows where to find her on Mother's Day. Pearl has not received any compensation for performing her duties. She does this out of love for the Romulus community.

The museum's artifacts occupy two buildings, an 1839 Romulus School House (District #1) which was moved to the park in 1986, opening to the public in 1991, and the historic 1855 Kingsley House. The Kingsley house is a unique duplex structure, which was moved to the park in 1995, and opened to the public in 2002. Pearl's father Fred and her late mother Helen led the push to save both of these buildings. Without their backing, neither of these projects may have come to fruition.

Pearl utilizes an all-volunteer staff to open both of the buildings to the public. She also supervises people that are supplied by the 34th District Court Work Program. Current and former Romulus residents, visitors, history buffs, and those that are researching family history and genealogy are able to access a wealth of information that is contained in the archives of the two buildings. Pearl established these archives in 2001 and they continue to grow as the museum receives more material.

Including the two of these buildings, there are a total of five historic structures on the property that is known as Romulus Historical Park, which is located in the downtown area. Pearl's father Frederick W. Hay was serving as the first chairman of the Romulus Historical Commission when this park was dedicated in the fall of 1992.

The other three structures are vital to Romulus history. There is a circa 1900s Wabash Railroad Freight House, which is the only surviving railroad building in



Pearl Varner

the city. There is a circa 1940s caboose, which traveled the railroad tracks through Romulus, and a windmill that was located on the Mach family farm north of the airport.

The progress that occurred in this area has spanned a period of around 30 years and three city administrations: the late Mayor William Oakley, the late Mayor Beverly McAnally and former Mayor Alan Lambert. Prior to 1986, none of these buildings were located on this property. It was a blighted area which included an abandoned foundry and several derelict buildings along Hunt Street.

Pearl became interested in researching and preserving history as a young girl when she was influenced by her maternal grandmother Flora Morris. Her grandmother taught Pearl the family genealogy regarding her grandmother and grandfather. This evolved into a quest to learn as much as she could about Romulus history. Her family settled in the township of Romulus in 1854, shortly after it was organized in 1835.

In 1978, the State of Michigan recognized the Merrill-Morris house located on Huron River Drive as a Michigan Historical site. This house was owned by Pearl Morris, a sister to Pearl's mother Helen. Pearl Morris grew up in this house.

The recognition of this house by the State of Michigan created an idea to start a local Historical Society. The late Mayor William Oakley called a meeting to see if he could obtain at least 10 interested people to form the society. It became a reality in 1979. Pearl is one of the 20 charter members and served as the first president. She served in this capacity for 14 years and served as

vice president for three years.

Since 1979, a great deal of progress has occurred with the advancement of the society through the years. Pearl was fortunate to work alongside many city officials and other Historical Society members in order to continue to improve the city. The first program that the society embarked upon was the recognition of 14 local historical sites. This occurred between 1979 and 1998. The 15th historical site was recognized in 2006 as the centennial farm that belongs to Pearl's parents was added to the list.

1985 was a very important year for the city as it celebrated its 150th anniversary – its Sesquicentennial. A collaborative effort occurred between the city and the society to hold many events during that year. There was a parade, several dinners and dances, and several programs regarding Romulus history. It was during that year that the Romulus Historical Commission was formed to compliment the Romulus Historical Society. As previously mentioned, Pearl's father was the first chairman and he continues to serve as a commissioner.

In 1987 the State of Michigan caught up to the City of Romulus as it celebrated its Sesquicentennial. There were a few programs that occurred in the city to commemorate this event.

Pearl was born to Frederick W. and Helen Hay during World War II. She was born at the local Romulus Hospital on Goddard Road. (Incidentally, the building is still there and is now the Witherow Woods apartments.)

She is the oldest of four children. Her siblings are Margie, Frederick and Carla. She grew up on Huron River Drive near Eureka Road.

Pearl attended Romulus Community Schools and graduated in 1960 as the valedictorian of her class. She continued her education and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Science and Math from Michigan State University. She taught high school for several years. Then she worked at Parke-Davis Pharmaceutical Company in Ann Arbor as a research assistant. She currently teaches piano lessons and is a math tutor.

She married Virgil L. Varner on Dec. 26, 1964. Virgil ran his own electrical contracting business and is also retired from General Motors. They reside in the adjacent community of Van Buren Township, but Pearl and Virgil spend a great deal of their waking hours in the community of Romulus. They have two sons, Darius and Lloyd, and they are residents of Romulus. Her sons reside on the original family homestead property. Their grandchildren, Hanna and Asa, have and continue to

participate in many historical events and activities.

Pearl has not only committed herself to the Romulus Community, but has enlisted the help of her parents, brother, sisters, her sons and their families, grandchildren, nieces and nephews. It is labor of love for the whole family and they have utilized their talents and labor on many of the projects that have occurred throughout the years.

She also has a group of dedicated volunteers that belong to the Romulus Historical Society and the Romulus Historical Commission. Each one of these individuals, too numerous to name individually, have worked alongside Pearl to improve the community.

The next major ongoing project will be the complete restoration of the Peter C. Bird home, which was built by a Civil War veteran in 1878. A lot of progress has already occurred on this structure. Pearl has secured donations for the naming right of the rooms of the house, which included a donation from her father. Pearl, the Romulus Historical Society, and the Romulus Historical Commission are currently working with the city and Mayor LeRoy Burcroff to make this project a reality.

A dinner will be held at the Detroit Airport Marriott Hotel on Saturday, April 25. There will be a reception at 6 p.m. with dinner at 7 p.m. Cost is \$35 per person and there will be a cash bar. This is open to anyone who wishes to attend, but reservations are required.

Contact the Romulus Chamber office at (734) 893-0694 or email at info@romuluschamber.com.

Pearl's father,
Frederick W. Hay,
died March 3. His
obituary is on page 8.

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OPINIONS

Editorial

Library Board deciding how to replace director

Most of Tuesday's meeting of the Belleville Area District Library Board's meeting was spent discussing the details of how to replace Debra Green as library director – after her 28 years at the helm.

Green recently announced she would retire May 15.

A special meeting was tentatively set for March 24, probably about 7:30 p.m. or so, to discuss interview questions for candidates, dates for interviews, the interview process, and whether to involve an outside consultant.

In question was whether new board member Tanya Stoudemire could attend in the middle of the busy tax season. She was absent on Tuesday. Stoudemire is a member of the personnel committee and wrote most of the documents for the search for a new library director that the board was studying.

Several board members said Deputy Director Mary Jo Suchy could run the library as interim director after Green left and the search continued, but how long could she do two jobs?

The board decided to post the job opening on library web sites as of March 16 and work out the details before the April 30 deadline on the posting.

Board members know this is an important search and stress they want to do it right. We support their efforts.

It's not a requirement, but the board would really like the new director to have experience in capital improvements.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

Mark Perkins of Van Buren Township, who served as VBT Public Safety Director and was a 20-year employee of VBT, now is Deputy Chief of Huron Township Police.

After Perkins left VBT in 2001 he became a part-time officer for Huron Township in 2002.

Huron Chief Everett Robbins requested the promotion of Perkins at a recent township board meeting and the board approved the promotion unanimously.

Perkins is still part time and isn't getting a change in salary or benefits.

Part of his job has been to write and apply for grants for the department and Chief Robbins said many of those grants needed to be written by someone on the command staff – thus Perkins' promotion.

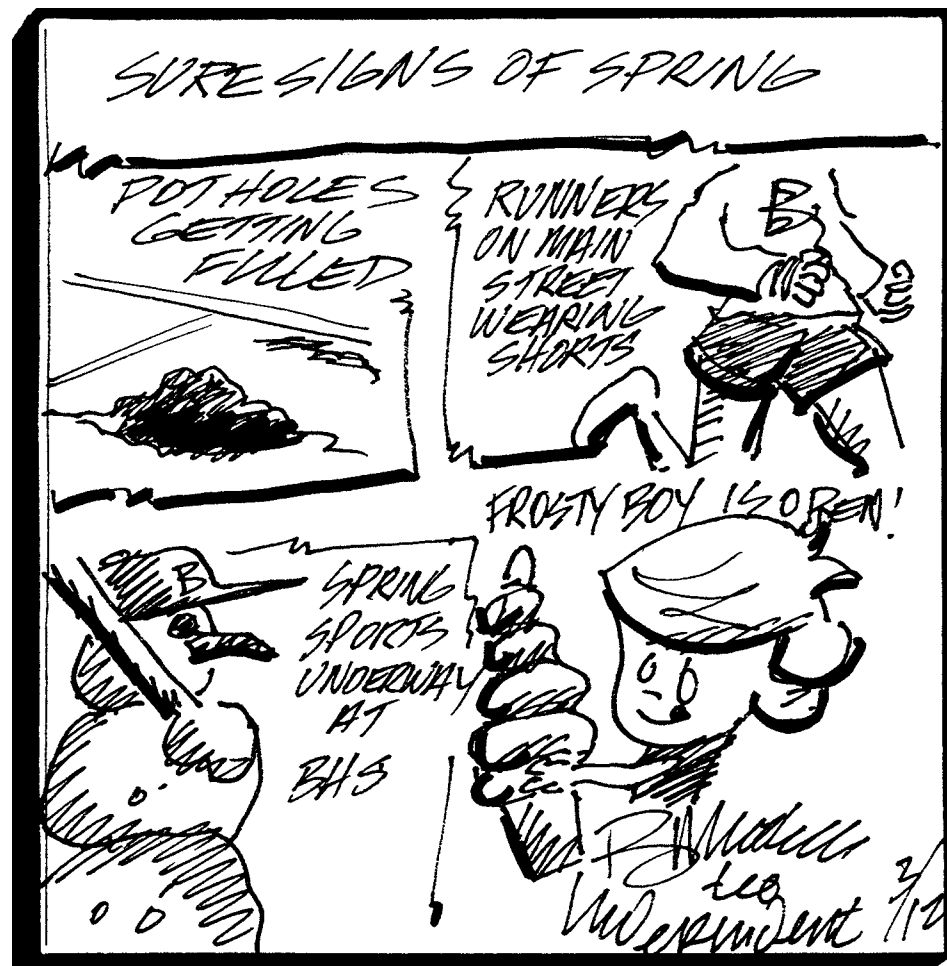
Toby Leis of CAL Plumbing reports that he attended a Western Wayne Master Plumbers meeting recently and heard a report that water heater prices are going up a minimum of \$100 each after April 1.

He said it has to do with a new government mandate that will increase the cost and size of the tanks by a minimum of two inches. The new water heaters won't fit in some current spaces, especially in mobile homes, he said, adding that will be a problem for some homeowners.

The government is requiring an extra two inches of insulation and some different design, he explained.

He suggested any readers who have old water heaters or are thinking about buying a new one look into the issue.

We've had several reports from our



readers telling of scam telephone calls from the IRS and Michigan Department of Treasury, threatening to jail them or take them to court or otherwise trying to make the readers send money to them.

We're happy to report the readers knew that the IRS and Michigan Department of the Treasury don't call you up when they've got a problem. They write it down and send it in the mail.

The readers called their local police departments to double check and were told it was a scam. It is very disturbing to get such a call, but we're glad our readers aren't biting.

Another woman said someone saying they were from Microsoft called offering to fix her computer if she'd just push certain buttons turning control over to the caller. She didn't bite, either.

It's amazing how many comments our story on the VBT lawsuit has inspired. On our website people are commenting on other stories, as well. We're at www.bellevilleareaindependent.com.

The Michigan Press Association trades contest judging duties with other states since others judge our MPA contests for us. As a member, the *Independent* should take its turn judging, so we do.

The most recent competition was the Professional Keystone Press Awards out of Pennsylvania. I spent the week end

reading reports all about Pennsylvania and adjoining New York and I sure learned a lot. Although it was tough, it was fun.

One of the columnists wrote about her father buying tapioca pearls and some food color, cooking it up, putting it in little squares of gauze and tying the tiny parcels with string. Then he used it as bait in fishing for trout and caught the limit within an hour.

I never heard of bait made out of tapioca that looked like fish eggs. I've led a sheltered life, I guess.

The beautiful, pure-white, icy sheen on the landscape last week has been replaced, almost overnight, by bright, sun-shiny days and dripping, running, muddy water – and everyone is glad that spring is on its way.

It'll soon be time for gravel roads to suck up cars and trucks making their way home and for water everywhere. Spring is coming after all. Next Tuesday is St. Patrick's Day. What better signpost for spring?

Before you know it the Snowbirds will be flying back to their summer homes. Many know what happened in their absence since they've been getting the *Independent* sent to them all winter.



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Letters

Want to know what teachers really make?

To the Editor:

I am writing this in regards to the recent publishing of the salaries that teachers and others make in our community. I have two daughters who became teachers. They always wanted to be teachers and worked hard to have the career they love. They love children and wanted to make a difference in their lives. To this day they are dedicated to their jobs. They both work many hours more than expected in a normal eight-hour day. They stay after school and are always there for extra-curricular activities at the schools, because they love their students and not because they have to be there.

They come home from school to their families and their children and then what little spare time they have in the evening and on weekends they are doing their job correcting papers and preparing for the days ahead so the children they teach can have a good education. Parents need to know that being a teacher is not just watching your children all day, but educating them, encouraging them to do the best they can and, at times, just being there for them.

When you become a teacher learning never stops. They must continue taking classes to keep their Teacher Certification and new teaching methods. I am proud of my daughters. They worked hard to become what they are and I know they would never have chosen another career. The following article was sent to me on the internet and I think everyone who questions what a teacher does and what their salary is needs to read it. (It was written by Taylor Mali.)

What Teachers Make!

The dinner guests were sitting around the table discussing life. One man, a CEO, decided to explain the problem with education. He argued what's a kid going to

learn from someone who decided his option in life was to become a teacher? To stress his point, he said to another guest, "You're a teacher, Bonnie. Be honest. What do you make?"

She paused for a second, then began, "Well, I make kids work harder than they ever thought they could. I make a C+ feel like the Congressional Medal of Honor winner. I make kids sit through 40 minutes of class time when their parents can't make them sit for five minutes without an iPod, Game Cube, or movie rental. You want to know what I make?"

(She paused again and looked at each and every person at the table.)

"I make kids wonder. I make them question. I make them apologize and mean it. I make them have respect and take responsibility for their actions. I teach them how to write and then I make them write. Keyboarding isn't everything. I make them read, read, read. I make them show all their work in math. They use their God-given brain, not the man-made calculator. I make my students from other countries learn everything they need to know about English while preserving their unique cultural identity. I make my classroom a place where all my students feel safe.

"Finally, I make them understand that if they use the gifts they were given, work hard, and follow their hearts, they can succeed in life.

(Bonnie paused one last time and then continued.)

"Then, when people try to judge me by what I make, with me knowing money isn't everything, I can hold my head up high and pay no attention because they are ignorant. You want to know what I make?

"I make a difference in all your lives, educating kids and preparing them to become CEO's, and doctors, and engineers ... What do you make, Mr. CEO?"

His jaw dropped; he went silent.

If you are a parent, grandparent, aunt, uncle or just anyone who has contact with any child and have a chance to come in contact with a teacher, tell that teacher **Thank You** for being a teacher and making a difference in a child's life.

Kathy Wasser, Van Buren Township
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More Letters

'Wild Game Dinner' Set at Trinity Episcopal

To the Editor:

Trinity Episcopal Church is having a "Wild Game Dinner" that will be held on March 14. Doors open at 4 with dinner at 5 p.m. Tickets will be \$25 for adults and \$15 for ages 6-12. All proceeds benefit the youth program mission trip.

The menu will consist of venison, walleye, salmon, waterfowl, and small game. Potato, vegetable, salad, desserts, beverages (some gluten-free and non-game offerings available).

The guest speaker for the evening will be David Parrott of the 34th District Court and a member of the Huron Valley Conservation Association.

Door prizes and local vendor booths, along with raffles will make this night a sure success. Everyone from the community is encouraged to come! For Ticket information call (734) 777-2845, (734) 277-3152 or (734) 355-4371.

Thanks so much!

Reggie Miller


Van Buren Township

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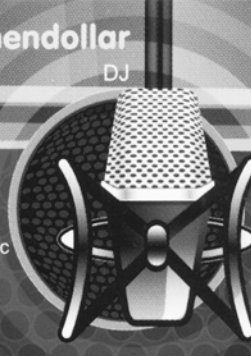
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Obituaries



Hazel L. Bigham

HAZEL L. BIGHAM

(March 6, 1928 - March 8, 2015)

Hazel Lyle Bigham, age 87, of Romulus, MI, passed away Sunday, March 8, 2015 at her home. She was born March 6, 1928 in Grand Rapids, MI, daughter of Roy Oscar & Gertrude (Mastroes) Wade.

Hazel was hired at Wyandotte Savings Bank, now Chase Bank, in 1959. She took time off in 1962 to have a baby and was re-hired in February 1963 until she retired in January 1992. She was branch manager of the Haggerty Road NBD office for 20 years. She was active in the Belleville Chamber of Commerce from 1971-2008. She volunteered at the Belleville Museum from 2000 until 2012. She was a very active member of Community of Christ, Riverview, where she taught bible study and was ordained as an Elder in 1995. Hazel was also very active with the Belleville Area Women's Club (BAWC), formerly Business and Professional Women's (BPW) Club. In her free time she was an avid reader who enjoyed arts & crafts, especially plastic canvas. She made many bird houses, coasters and tissue covers. She also loved to crochet. She donated an afghan to the BAWC's fashion show auction every year.

She is survived by two sons Roy (Peggy) Bigham of Westland, MI and Tom (Sharon) Bigham of New Boston, MI; 9 grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; a sister Rose Marie Eaton of Newaygo, MI; brother Clyde Wade of Florida; also numerous nieces, nephews and friends. Hazel was preceded in death by her husband W. Daniel Bigham on August 1, 1999, son William R. Bigham on November 24, 2011, two brothers Dan and Richard, also two sisters Joyce and Mary.

Visitation was 4-8 PM Wednesday and will be 9-11 AM Thursday, March 12, 2015 with an 11 AM Funeral Service at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111 (734) 697-4500. Bishop Tom Jeffers will officiate. Interment will follow in Parkview Memorial Cemetery, Livonia, MI.

Memorial contributions may be made to the family to be distributed to her favorite organizations. Please sign her on-line guest book and share a memory for her family to cherish at www.davidcbrownfh.com.



Beatrice Marie Easton

BEATRICE M. EASTON

(August 3, 1933 - March 3, 2015)

Mrs. Beatrice Marie Easton passed away Tuesday, March 3, 2015 at her home in Belleville surrounded by her family. She was born August 3, 1933 in Detroit, a daughter of late Anthony Scalici and the late Gladys Itnyre.

Mrs. Easton was known as a wonderful cook with a great sense of humor. When her children were young she was an active Girl Scout Leader and Cub Scout Den Mother. She enjoyed listening to the music of Barbra Streisand. Mrs. Easton was a volunteer at the election polls for many years. She was a devoted Detroit Tigers Fan. Mrs. Easton also loved to dance, paint and enjoyed a good round of golf. Prior to her retirement in 1998 she had been employed by Adventure Travel Agency in Belleville as a travel agent for many years.

Mrs. Easton is survived by her 4 loving children: Dianne R. Hibner, Denise M. Eland, Kenneth Easton and Jo Jo Phillips. Beloved grandmother to 6 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren. Fond sister of Virginia Morrison.

The family will have a private committal service of the cremated remains in the spring. Arrangements entrusted to the Higginson & Neal Funeral Home, Belleville.

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Roger Lee Page

ROGER L. PAGE

(January 6, 1948 - March 7, 2015)

Roger Lee Page, age 67, of Belleville, MI, passed away Saturday, March 7, 2015 at University Hospitals, Ann Arbor, MI. He was born January 6, 1948 in Mitchell, South Dakota, son of Maynard Clarence & Thelma Lucille (Carpenter) Page.

Roger loved being a pipefitter in the construction industry. He was a member of Local 636 and retired September 1, 2014. He also enjoyed traveling, motorcycle riding, horses, computer time, especially Facebook, and most of all, he loved time spent with family.

He is survived by his wife Mildred Marie (Scharpenberg) Page; daughter Sharon Marie (Larry) Goodwyn of Royal Palm Beach, FL; two sons Richard Lee (Kimberly Sue) Page of Belleville and Jason Lee "JP" (Stacey) Page of Saline, MI; three step-daughters Tina Marie (Todd) Spiegel of Adrian, MI, Laura Lee (Gary) Heldt of Britton, MI and Crestina Marie (Scott) Scherdt of Ypsilanti, MI; 19 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren and one on-the-way. Roger is also survived by 7 sisters, 6 brothers, numerous nieces & nephews and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, step-son Stevie Jamnick II, granddaughter Erica Marie Goodwyn, also a brother Tom Page.

Visitation was 5-8 PM Tuesday, 12-8 PM Wednesday and will be 12-1 PM Thursday at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111 (734) 697-4500. Funeral Services will be 1 PM Thursday at the funeral home. Interment will follow in Mallett Cemetery, Huron Township, MI.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Lung Association or to Autism

research and would be greatly appreciated. Please sign his on-line guest book and share a story for his family to treasure at www.davidcbrownfh.com.



MARK ANDREW HARDY

(May 16, 1957 - March 9, 2015)

Age 57, of Ypsilanti, formerly of Wayne. Served his country in the U.S. Air Force. Survived by brother Jeffrey Hardy, sister Jacqueline Robbins. Cremation rites have been accorded. David C. Brown Funeral Home.

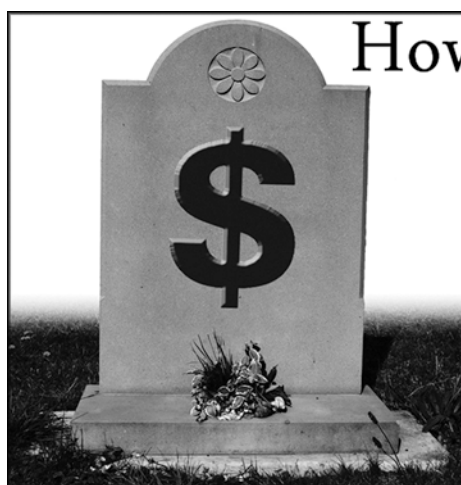
DOROTHY ROSEMARY WILSON

(October 25, 1931 - March 4, 2015)

Age 83, of Ann Arbor. Member of St. Anthony Catholic Church. Survived by brother Stanley Caesarz, Jr., 4 nephews, 2nieces. Service was March 11 at David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville. Entombment at Michigan Mem. Pk.

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Obituaries



Frederick Hay

FREDERICK WESTBROOK HAY

(April 11, 1919 – March 3, 2015)

Frederick Westbrook Hay, 95, of Romulus passed away on March 3, 2015. Fredrick was born April 11, 1919 in Detroit. He was the son of the late Alfred Hay and Eulalia (Hall) Hay.

Frederick graduated from Romulus High School in 1937. In 1941 he married his high school sweetheart, Helen Morris. Frederick and Helen were married for 65 years. Together they reared four children, whom all attended Romulus Schools.

Soon after World War II broke out Mr. Hay entered the United States Army and served his country in the European Campaign. He was involved in the Invasion of Normandy, Battle of the Bulge, and during the last days of the war, at the River Elbe in Germany. He served with the 102nd Infantry, which captured 350,000 German prisoners by May 7, 1945. For nine months following this date he served in the military police in Germany during the US occupation. He returned home in 1945.

Mr. Hay has been a Romulus businessman for the past 70 years. His business career began with his brother-in-law, Carl W. Morris, in 1938, when they operated the Gulf service station at Five-Points. Many young men worked there pumping gas -- back then people did not pump their own gas! Frederick and Carl were partners in business for many years. Mr. Hay also operated a construction company and finally the horse farm known as ZEPHYR ARABIANS.

Frederick and his wife Helen both shared the vision of the community service. They both served as co-leaders in the 4-H Club, called the ROMULUS WESTERN RIDERS. As leaders of a horse club they hauled horses to fair, chaperoned kids' parties, and assisted young members with their many 4-H projects. They drove teenagers to camp, encouraged leadership and served as mentors as the members grew into young adults. The 4-H was a way of life for the numerous teens that they assisted. Everyone looked forward to the meetings, swimming parties and gatherings, and of course, the annual 4-H Fair in August. Membership was usually between 15-20 young adults. It was through Mr. and Mrs. Hay's dedication and services that these teenagers were kept busy and out of trouble. They did this for 26 years!

As a charter member of the Romulus Kiwanis Club, Mr. Hay served as President many times. He was active in chairing the pancake breakfast and Kiwanis peanut and fruitcake sales the club held. These fund-raisers helped support a free county and local school dental program for needy children, high school scholarship programs, the Boys Club, and holiday help for several local charities. The Kiwanians also supported donations to Mott Children's Hospital on an annual basis. Mr. Hay was an avid supporter of causes for children. Fred once said, "Kiwanis is a great organization, to which my wife and I belong, because it is always for the benefit of the community." Through Kiwanis, Frederick participated in the Salvation Army Christmas-bell ringing event.

He and Helen volunteered many times to help the Salvation Army reach their goal of helping homeless, hungry and desperate families overcome their problems and became self-supporting again.

Being a long-time resident of Romulus, Mr. Hay was also interested in preserving the history of Romulus. He actively participated in the saving, moving and restoring of the Romulus Historical Museum (formerly District #1 Schoolhouse). Fred and Helen were always ready to assist in any way they could to make the museum a reality. It took five years to complete. He never said "no" to a request to help. Mr. Hay also participated in the moving and restoration of other structures in the Romulus Historical Park over the last 22 years. The historical park became a reality through the joint cooperation of the City of Romulus, Romulus Historical Commission, Romulus Historical Society and numerous volunteers from the local community. Mr. Hay is a member of both The Romulus Historical Society and The Romulus Historical Commission. He served as Charter member in both. To cherish his memory he leaves one son Frederick M. (Kathleen) Hay of Romulus; three daughters Pearl (Virgil) Varner of Van Buren Township, Margie (Richard) Baird of Romulus, and Carla (William) Cox of Van Buren Township; one brother Jack M. Hay of South Lyon, seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. In addition to Frederick passing, he was preceded in death by his parents, his wife Helen Hay, and three brothers Robert A. Hay, Gordon Hay and Hazen Hay.

Friends gathered from 5 to 8 p.m. on Saturday March 7, 2015 at Crane Funeral Home, 36885 Goddard Rd. Romulus 48174, (734) 941-9200, and again on Sunday March 8, 2015 from 1 to 8 p.m. The funeral service was held at 11 a.m. on Monday March 9, 2015 at Community United Methodist Church, with Rev. Cindy Gibbs officiating. Interment took place at Romulus Cemetery, with Military Honors.

Those who wish, may contribute to the Romulus Historical Society. You may send donations to P. O. Box 74386, Romulus, MI, 48174. Online guests may leave condolences, share a photo, or light a memorial candle by visiting www.cranefuneralhome.net.



Pauline "Dottie" Burcroff

PAULINE 'DOTTIE' BURCROFF

(January 5, 1921 - March 1, 2015)

Pauline "Dottie" Burcroff, age 94, passed away Sunday, March 1, 2015, at her residence in Ann Arbor. She was born January 5, 1921, in Detroit to John and Pauline Miller. In 1947, she married Jack Burcroff and they lived in Belleville for over 54 years.

Pauline is survived by daughters Cynthia (William) McPherson of Saline and Beth (Charles) Mancherian of Ann Arbor; by step-grandchildren Keven Mancherian of Waterford, Warren (Ann) Mancherian and their sons Beckham and Gable of Acworth, Georgia. She is also survived by brother-in-law Paul (Beverly) Burcroff of Clayton and several nieces and nephews. Besides her husband and parents, she was preceded in death by her sister Evelyn Simerick and brothers Clarence Miller

and Edward Miller.

Before she married and became a homemaker and devoted wife and mother, she briefly did secretarial work and then joined the war effort working as a riveter at Willow Run. She was a member of St. Anthony Catholic Church and was a member of the altar society there for many years. Pauline was just a wonderful lady, a great wife and mother.

The family would like to thank all of the 4th floor angels at Atria Senior Living Center who took excellent care of her while she resided there, especially during the last two months of her life and also Nord from Senior Helpers. A memorial service was held on March 9, 2015, at David C. Brown Funeral Home in Belleville with Father Thomas Cusick officiating.

Memorial contributions may be made in her name to The Humane Society of Huron Valley in Ann Arbor or to the Monastery of the Blessed

Sacrament, 29575 Middlebelt Rd., Farmington Hills, Michigan 48334. Please sign her on-line guest book and share a memory for her family to cherish.

Correction: Tom Demond actually is Thom Dumond

Tom Demond of Boss Engineering, quoted in the front page story on Starbucks, is actually Thom Dumond.

We depended on the Van Buren Township paperwork for the meeting, and shouldn't have.

We regret the error.

-- Rosemary K. Otzman, editor

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Tim Inman, Postmaster, Belleville

How about leaving names off salary lists?

To the Editor:

In next year's annual report to taxpayers, would you consider listing employee salaries and wages anonymously?

I agree it's important to know how much our workers are being paid, but I don't need or want to know how much a particular teacher or fire fighter (some of whom are friends and acquaintances) is paid. Even if names were omitted, there would still be enough information to identify problems, and anonymous reporting would show sensitivity for workers' privacy.

Shunsuke Okubo
Van Buren Township

Thought Public Servants were underpaid

To the Editor:

I thought Public Servants were rumored to be underpaid. Ha! Not in the 48111 zip code.

D.A. Williams
Dearborn Heights

What about salaries for district library staff?

To the Editor:

Thanks for the salary reports for Belleville, Sumpter, Keystone and Van Buren schools and township. I don't know if I missed I, but what about B.A.D.L.? I think that should be reported to the taxpayers. If you already reported those salaries, thanks. If not, please do.

John P. Smagner

Editor's Note: He's right, of course. The Belleville Area District Library has salaries paid with the .7 mill tax paid by the property owners in the city of Belleville and Van Buren and Sumpter townships. We'll submit a Freedom of Information Act request for those salaries, as well.

Rufa migration threatened by Fermi

To the Editor:

I have finished reading the recently released Fermi 3 *Supplemental Biological Assessment* (February 2015) done by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service who has notified the NRC that an Endangered Species (the Rufa Red Knot) was known to use the shoreline as a stop-over resting, feeding spot on their 19,000-mile migration.

DTE first said none had been spotted since 1973, then changed that stating a Rufa was seen on the property in 2000. According to a citizens' bird watcher's group (www.eBird.org) multiple sightings were reported in 2014 at the Pointe Mouillee State Game area, which borders Fermi on the north, and at Sterling State Park, which borders on the south. Sightings have also been reported from Estral Beach, bordering the Fermi site on the east.

The Atlantic seacoast is the main route for many migrating birds, likely because of more abundant food supply. However, a lot of birds take the less-traveled inland route, and the Great Lakes are on the flight plan for these.

After flying a few thousand miles, the Rufas rest on the western basin of Lake Erie and feed for a couple of weeks. Then they resume their long journey, doing so twice a year. Many other species of birds do this same migration pattern, but the Rufa is the endangered one – this year at least.

Wouldn't it be a terrible thing for their stop-over to be further destroyed by building another nuclear reactor? People, don't let this happen. Now is the time to speak out against it, instead of lamenting that the Rufa has become extinct.

Sincerely,
Jessie Pauline Collins
Redford
jessiepauline@gmail.com

Birthdays

March 13 – Cindy Palmeri
March 15 – Raymond Deming
March 26 – Bill Oztman, Sherman Arnold
March 30 – Rick Mills

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Court watching

(continued from page 1)

Schuler said the man yelled, "I f - - king told you so," and he could see the man holding onto the dog which was on his hind legs. The man said, "Get 'em," Schuler testified.

Schuler said he used the radio to tell the police to "Step it up" and then, "I took off running as fast as I could. I jumped in the back of the truck. I didn't see the dog. Cars were between me and the door."

He said he told dispatch that he was secure in the back of his vehicle and he waited for the police. It seemed like hours.

He said he was about 20-25' from the door when he saw the man holding the pit bull.

Defense attorney Jason Goldman objected, saying it was not established that the dog was a pit bull.

Schuler testified his vehicle was about 125' from the door.

Under cross examination, Goldman asked Schuler how long he had been an ordinance officer and he said it was 14 years and something like this had never happened before.

Schuler testified that he didn't go to the door and introduce himself, but just started walking around in the yard.

"It appeared nobody was home. I was looking at expired plates," Schuler said.

He said within 60 seconds he was half way up the driveway when Koenig started yelling at him. He said he had a direct view of the window, from which the defendant was yelling.

"When the side door opened, did you hear dogs barking?" Goldman asked and Schuler said he didn't.

He said he saw one dog, a larger dog, with a boxed head. It was white with black splotches and was over 100 pounds. He said he thought it was a pit bull and he had heard they never let you go once they get hold of you.

Schuler said Koenig was holding the dog on his hind legs and, "I believed he let it go."

Goldman asked him if he outran a dog for 100-125' and Schuler said he didn't know.

Goldman continued cross examination and Schuler responded that there was no

physical contact, he didn't see the dog anywhere, did not see anybody go out and bring in a dog, and never saw the dog again.

Also, he did not turn around while being chased and while he held a camera in his hand he did not take a picture of a dog.

"You gave a statement to police that you didn't see the dog chase you at all," Goldman said and Schuler agreed.

After police arrived, he said he saw someone, not Koenig, leave on a bicycle. He said he was not bitten by a dog and never heard barking.

"All I could pretty much hear was my heart beating so loudly," Schuler testified. "I was terrified for my own safety. I was trying to be ready to jump on the roof of the truck if the dog jumped up into the back of the truck. I've seen them do that."

Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor Ryan Lukiewski suggested he was threatened after he identified himself as an ordinance officer.

"I contacted police first at the threat and then after I ran," Schuler said and then he was released from testimony.

Prosecutor Lukiewski said the felonious assault charge would be up to a jury to decide if the instrument was a dangerous weapon.

He said the statement, "I f - - cking warned you," would be decided by a jury whether a reasonable person would be made afraid.

That's when he asked for the second charge of assault/resisting/obstructing a public official.

Goldman argued that the dog that allegedly was used as a dangerous weapon actually never was outside.

"We don't have testimony there was a dog outside. Profanity has nothing to do as a dangerous weapon," Goldman said.

"It's mind-boggling he sat in the truck for so long and he didn't even see the dog," Goldman said. He said there was no mention of a pit bull. He asked the case be dismissed.

The prosecutor insisted a crime was committed when Koenig was holding the door and said, "You asked for it," and, "Get him."

Judge Oakley said the threat is what they've got for probable cause and, "The officer had reason to be afraid."

He bound Koenig over to circuit court

and continued the \$5,000 personal recognizance bond.

John Ferguson Zacchi

John Ferguson Zacchi, 35, waived his preliminary exam and Judge Oakley bound him over to circuit court for an arraignment on the information before Judge Gregory Bill on March 11. He faces charges from a Feb. 17 retail fraud incident at Meijer when he is alleged to have fled from police down Tyler Road.

Official charges are possession of narcotics, fleeing police officer in a vehicle, retail fraud, possession of marijuana, and driving while license suspended - second time.

Zacchi was lodged on \$30,000/10% bond and his retained attorney Earl Washington asked for a reduction. VBT Detective Mark Buxton said he had no objection to personal bond and a GPS tether, which Judge Oakley ordered.

Ibrahim Daoud Ibrahim

Ibrahim Daoud Ibrahim, 47, of Belleville Exchange, 9894 Belleville Road, is facing charges of Organized Retail Crime and Receiving and Concealing Stolen Property More than \$1,000, But Less Than \$20,000.

He first was scheduled to have his probable cause hearing on Feb. 4 and that was postponed until March 4.

On March 4, his retained attorney Raymond Guzall asked for adjournment of the preliminary exam until March 25, because the two prosecutors that were on the case are both on vacation now.

Judge Oakley agreed and continued his \$10,000 personal recognizance bond.

Target is the complainant in the case, which was alleged to have occurred March 20, 2014. The warrant for his arrest was

issued Dec. 17.

The iPads in question allegedly had been stolen from Target and misrepresented by the defendant, said VBT Police Detective Donovan McCarthy.

Attorney Guzell said his client owns his own store. He said the case file is so thick because 95% of the cases in it are the criminals he helped police apprehend.

Djuna Lynn Garbo

Djuna Lynn Garbo, 48, who was in court for her probable cause hearing, had her preliminary exam adjourned until April 11.

She is charged with larceny, identity theft, FTD (financial transaction device) stealing/use without consent, FTD illegal sale/use 14 times, and FTD possession. This was alleged to have happened Jan. 25, 2014. She is out on \$1,000 personal recognizance bond.

Her retained attorney is Angie Martell and VBT Det. Buxton is in charge of the case.

Kyle Pierre Gist

Kyle Pierre Gist, who was set for his pretrial exam on charges of driving while

(continued on page 15)

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 <p>45230 Greenbriar, Belleville \$183,100— 4 bedroom, 2.1 baths, 2378sqft, fam rm w frplc, lrg deck, full pre-plmd bsmt, office, loft, newer kitchen, & dining room. ***To be auctioned on Homeseach.com***</p>	 <p>13216 Mauntak, Belleville \$161,900— 3 bdrm, 2.2 bths, 2080 sqft home w/ 1st flr master ste, great rm w/ vaulted ceilings, full partially fnshd bsmt, backs to pond, & more!</p>	 <p>45883 Purplesage, Belleville \$70,000— 2 bdrm, 2 bath upper unit condo. Updated kitchen, covered balcony, master ste w walk-in closet.</p>	 <p>19681 Somers, New Boston \$34,900— Corner lot! Home on .41 acres, 1 1/2 story home, det 2 car garage, 3 bdrm, 1 bath, 1072 sqft.</p>	 <p>42537 S. I-94 Service Dr, Belleville \$155,000— Waterfront Property!!! Belleville Lakefront vacant land— .87 ACRES!!! Paved road, city water & sewer at the street.</p>



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Upcoming Meetings

- Thursday, March 12 – Keystone Academy School Board, 6 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township Planning Commission continues deliberation on Sumpter Roller Rink's special use permit at 7 p.m. Also, Belleville Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m.
- Monday, March 16 – Van Buren Township work/study session, 4 p.m. Also, Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m. at Edgemont Elementary School. Also, Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, March 17 – Van Buren Township regular board meeting, 7 p.m.
- Wednesday, March 18 – Belleville Downtown Development Authority, 6 p.m.

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More Letters

Subject: Social and economic equality

To the Editor:

The *Independent* newspaper has posted the wage and benefits summary of all public employees in Van Buren Township for seven years now and there remains some consternation regarding the propriety of some individual employee's wage reporting.

For instance in the February 26, 2015 edition you wrote that VBT Police Lt. Kenneth Floro received \$215,579.66 in total compensation, which has been reported as the highest-paid employee in Van Buren Township. While you did break out the numbers as \$96,247.31 in Police Department salary and \$71,049.40 in Fire Department wages, with \$48,282.95 in total benefits, these numbers were then used in the same article to reflect, "Lt. Kenneth Floro received almost a quarter of a million dollars in pay from VBT in 2014".

To put this article in proper perspective it should be understood that Lt. Floro received wages for providing service to the community as an on-duty police command officer with salary compensation of \$96,247.31 and a benefits package of \$48,282.95. This in itself is well within the range and even less than comparable salaries of private sector managers. I believe it is also comparable to salaries and benefits which other communities of similar demographics compensate equally qualified individuals in their employ.

Now to fully appreciate the complete reporting of this individual's cost to the township it should be understood that Lt. Floro also provided service to Van Buren Township as a scheduled, on-duty command officer in the VBT Fire Department and he received a salary compensation at a substantial premium as a "blended-rate employee" with no additional benefits. So, in essence, the township received his labor at a combined salary of \$167,296.71 and not the reported, "almost a quarter million dollars".

This practice of "blended-rate pay" isn't acceptable to many taxpayers (myself

included), but it is required by law. The township was put into this situation because of a shortage of fire fighters some time ago and the VBT POLC Union eventually won a favorable grievance arbitration judgment against Van Burn Township, subject to the findings of the Federal Labor Department. Since then measures have been initiated by the township authority to remedy this situation and severely restrict the use of blended-rate Public Safety Officers. Meanwhile Lt. Floro benefitted financially and was paid within the perimeters of the law.

To get beyond this difficulty in requiring "blended-rate pay" for dual service employees all we need to do is establish a full-time fire department in place of the "on call" plan that we have now. Perhaps after doing the associated math, and figuring the additional cost to taxpayers, I guarantee that everyone will wish we had stuck with the current system of "blended rate"!

Further, reporting individual public employees' wages and salaries almost seems to inspire socialist/communist theology. Is this the type of class warfare that is always blamed on President Obama? Pitting one employee against another is supposed to even the playing field? Not in my union manual!

Everyone should be entitled to the fruits of their labor, don't you agree? Let's be sure it is earned, though.

CeJay Marshall
Van Buren Township

Editor's Note: The "almost quarter of a million dollars" referred to was an interpretation by the attorney of the amount paid to Floro.

Katherine Kovach named to EMU Dean's List

Katherine Kovach of Sumpter Township has been named to the Eastern Michigan University Dean's List for the fall 2014 semester. She is in the School of Nursing.

A graduate of Summit Academy, Katherine is a sophomore at EMU.

She is the daughter of Steve Kovach and the late Koula Kovach.

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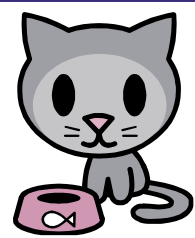


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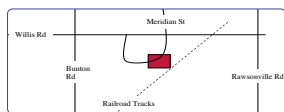


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Judgment

(continued from page 1)

you have to post bond equal to the fee. In this case, they were able to get past that fee because of specific wording in the law.

And that was good because J&T's fee was \$50,000, figured on seven years at \$20 a day.

Day said they went to court three or four times before the final session on Feb. 23.

That's when 34th District Court Judge Brian A. Oakley ordered a \$50,000 judgment against the City of Belleville after hearing testimony about the giant screw-up that left a vehicle in storage for seven years.

Judge Oakley said there was a lot of discussion about whose fault it was -- the city, the prosecutor, or the towing yard -- and it appeared the paperwork fell apart in Belleville.

The city's initial defense was that the prosecutor dropped the ball. The Prosecutor's office prepared a seizure

order under the forfeiture statute, but it was never entered by the court.

Judge Oakley said the Prosecutor never went through with the forfeiture procedure, probably because Goerlitz wasn't accused of wrongdoing.

"Whoever doing the wrong was responsible," Judge Oakley said.

But nobody told Goerlitz. And, Belleville didn't release the hold on the vehicle.

Judge Oakley said he looked at everybody involved and determined, "Belleville had the dirtiest hands."

Judge Oakley said Belleville claimed it had sent certified mail to Goerlitz. But the certified mail envelope produced by Belleville had no associated letter and so they couldn't tell what was sent to him.

The vehicle was never released.

Now there is a big storage charge and Belleville was ordered to pay it.

City Manager Diana Kollmeyer said the city will appeal the judgment, but in any case the \$50,000 is covered by the city's

insurance. The city's insurance attorney is handling the case.

Day said mediation didn't work and so he asked for summary disposition since the city didn't follow the statute. He said the documents the city filed showed they didn't follow the rules.

Day said his client went to visit his car at J&T and found vines growing through the engine compartment and dried mud up to the bumper. Day said he got a claim for delivery and now the worthless car is at Goerlitz's home in Taylor, where specific damages can be assessed.

He said the situation generated an attorney fee and now Goerlitz has a car that is not operable.

Goerlitz said he paid \$2,500 for the car and put in about \$500 more in mechanic's fees before the incident.

"Belleville held the vehicle for seven years without any lawful authority," Day said. "In September 2007, the criminal charge was over, it was no longer needed for evidence, and they didn't release the vehicle. It should have been sold or released.

"Somebody needs to pay for the damage to his car," Day said, referring to the way the vehicle was stored.

"He didn't do anything wrong and it's out of his pocket," Day said.

"We tried to settle with the city and the city wouldn't authorize settlement," Day said.

Day said J&T got a \$50,000 settlement for taking a \$2,500 car and letting it deteriorate.

"It could happen to any citizen in Belleville," Day said.

Day said if a mistake is made, the reasonable person wants to make it right, referring to the attorney fees necessary and the loss of a vehicle.

Under the ABAN statute if the police tow your car, you're responsible for the towing and storage, Day said.

But he said charging \$50,000 for seven years is excessive.

"I can't believe all this happened," a perplexed Goerlitz said on Monday.

Court watching

(continued from page 10)

license suspended in Sumpter Township on Feb. 18, 2012, pled guilty to no valid license on person and the DWLS charge was dropped. A fine of \$690 was assessed. Officer Colleen Carefelle was the officer in charge.

Doug Schneider

Doug Schneider pled guilty to operating while intoxicated on July 18, 2014 in Sumpter Township. The hearing-impaired defendant was assisted by an interpreter who translated the judge's words with hand signs.

Schneider said he consumed alcohol while he was fishing and got in the car and the steering wheel locked up and he went into the ditch (or fence). His blood alcohol level was 1.6. Both the original charges of OWI/OCC were dismissed. He was sent to the probation department for a pre-sentence report and a sentencing date will be scheduled. Officer Carefelle was the officer in charge.

Marvin Robertson

Marvin Robertson took a plea deal for his charge of operating while intoxicated on Sept. 14, 2014 in the city of Belleville. He said he consumed alcohol and drove. The original charge was dismissed and he was sent to the probation department for a pre-sentence report and a sentencing date. Officer Wickham was the officer in charge.

Nathan Olson

Nathan Olson was present for a motion by the People to not allow Olson's attorney to use a 2011 police report to cut the victim's reputation down. Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor Danielle Strace said there was no valid ground to allow this evidence.

Strace said the report is heresay by the officer and its admittance is aimed at impeaching the victim's credibility.

The retained attorney said she got the case from another attorney.

Judge Oakley granted the prosecutor's motion and said, "See you Friday" for the domestic violence trial.

Officer in charge is VBT Det. McCarthy.

George Blair

George Blair requested a bench trial on his charge of domestic violence and it was set for March 25. He will be represented by court-appointed attorney Jeff Bowdich.

Blair told Judge Oakley that he was on a payment plan for fees to the court and, "I failed to pay" for VBT civil infractions, including larceny and no proof of insurance. He told Judge Oakley he would pay \$300 on March 13.

VBT Det. Buxton is the officer in charge.

Belleville Area Garden Club to meet March 16

The monthly meeting of the Belleville Area Garden Club will be held at 7 p.m. Monday, March 16, at the First United Methodist Church, 417 Church Street.

Speaker will be Susan Anderson talking about butterfly gardens and the Butterfly Garden at the Van Buren Senior Center.

Those with an interest in gardening and meeting new friends, are invited to join them.

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Keystone Academy deals with iPod stolen from 8th-grader's locker

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

A distressed father came to talk to the Keystone Charter Academy school board at its regular meeting Feb. 12.

He began by saying, "I love this school. It has done great things."

Then, he said he was there to tell them about the theft of his 8th-grade son's iPod from his son's locker.

The theft happened on Feb. 9 and the locker-mate who confessed to the theft has been put on a three-day suspension.

Joseph Shopshear said that wasn't good enough. He wanted his son's iPod back and he wanted more severe punishment for those who took it.

The locker-mate allegedly said another student had told him to steal the iPod and that the other student had given it to his cousin. There were three stolen cell phones found in the locker.

He said he hasn't been able to track his son's iPod down by FindAPad because it hasn't been turned on.

Shopshear said he paid \$250 for the iPod and with everything that's on it, it's worth \$700-\$800, so the boy who took it could be charged with a misdemeanor for over \$1,000, if you included the cell phones.

"I wanted you to know how I felt about this," Shopshear said to the school board.

"None of us want this kind of thing to happen," said board president Vesta Losen.

Chris Caulk, the board's representative from National Heritage Academies (NHA), said this is not a board issue and Principal Keturah Godfrey has handled it by the book.

"She did what she needed to do. It's an NHA issue," Caulk said. "I want to commend Keturah for the way she handled it."

Losen said to Godfrey, "It's a confusing issue. Stay with the police on it."

Principal Godfrey said the iPod was brought to school on a day that was not a Tech Day, which was against the rules. It was in the locker wrapped in a towel.

It was stated the father gave his son permission to take it to school so it could

be used in an after-school program.

Godfrey said three cell phones were found in the locker and all returned to their owners. They couldn't prove who put them there, she said.

"We don't have high instances of theft," Godfrey said. "I called the police and talked to the parents."

She said Sumpter Police Officer George Salajan was investigating.

"We continue to monitor the situation," Godfrey said, in response to a board question about the students possibly fighting over this. "We're a small middle school with lots of teachers in the halls. Kids say things. As soon as something begins, it's over. We do a thorough investigation and make out witness forms."

"We don't have high instances of fighting here," Godfrey said.

The three students involved in the incident are 8th graders who are in their final semester at Keystone because the school goes only as far as the 8th grade.

In other business at the Feb. 12 meeting, the board:

- Voted to allocate \$1,156 from the board's discretionary fund to lease the The Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton Township for a student spring band concert May 13. The theater has excellent acoustics and seats 400. The board was informed by board secretary Susan Meland that Flat Rock schools said in the future Keystone could use its auditorium for such events, as well;

- Approved changes to the calendar for meetings in April and May. The scheduled March 12 meeting will go on as scheduled, but the meeting for April will be on the 14th and the meeting for May will be on the 26th. Then the meetings will go back to the regular schedule in June. These changes were to accommodate board secretary Meland who was in the final months of getting her master's degree;
- Removed from the agenda a discussion on the Wellness Policy Update, as requested by the board's attorney. Losen said the policy, which is being put in place to comply with federal law, is "insanely complicated";

- Heard Principal Godfrey say the recent enrollment information meetings – separate days for Kindergarten and for

general information – had higher turnouts than ever before.

Belleville Police make deal and get new, free Glocks for officers

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Belleville full-time police officers are getting new Glock Model 17 Gen-4 9 mm, semi-automatic pistols with Trijicon Night Sights and three magazines per weapon to replace their current side arms.

And, it's not going to cost the city a penny.

Police Chief Hal Berriman explained the deal to the city council at its March 2 meeting. Council members also had a memo from the chief explaining the transaction in detail.

Chief Berriman said presently all sworn members of the Belleville Police Department are armed with H&K USP40 automatic weapons. This is a .40-caliber, semi-automatic pistol, most of which were purchased prior to the year 2000.

Several of these weapons are showing wear and tear, although they are still useable, he said.

Chief Berriman said due to the advancement in weapons and ammunition,

many departments have upgraded their weapons, including the FBI, Michigan State Police, and locally Van Buren, Sumpter, Westland and other nearby departments.

In December a representative of Top Gun Shooting Sports of Taylor was asked to come to the Belleville PD and give them a price on the confiscated rifles, shotguns, and handguns that were no longer being held as evidence, in an effort to rid the Property Room of these weapons and acquire needed space.

Previously, he said, weapons that were no longer to be held were taken to the MSP for disposal, but in recent years departments were able to dispose of these weapons through reputable dealers.

Through this process, departments have been able to dispose of weapons while acquiring new weapons in exchange, as well as the trading in the department-issued weapons.

Tom Barlowe of Top Gun has offered

(continued from page 18)

COME TO THE CABARET!!!



Come and enjoy the individual talents of members of BCC featuring solos, duets and ensemble performances from our adult choristers.

Open Arms Lutheran Church

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Sunday, March 22, 2015 at 3:00 PM

Cost: **FREE**, but donations are welcome!!

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Soup Project

(continued from page 1)

Four projects were presented by students to guests who paid \$15 each to eat soup, tiny sandwiches, and cookies and then the guests voted for their favorite project.

After Ryan was presented with his \$500 check for being the winner, Belleville Mayor Kerreen Conley announced that the three other presentations were winners, too, because the Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce said it would fund each of the three non-winners, so their projects also could be done this summer.

The ones who didn't win the top prize also got gift certificates for pizza.

"Everyone goes away a winner," said Mayor Conley, who added she was looking forward to participating in all of these projects this year.

Ryan, who will get his Eagle Scout badge at a Court of Honor on March 17, told of his many canoe trips, including 50-mile, 75-mile, and 100-mile trips on Michigan rivers – without ever dumping over.

He said his project would bring people downtown to enjoy the lake because, while some live on the lake, not everyone has access to the lake.

He said the motto is "Belleville Downtown on the Lake" but Belleville people aren't on the lake.

Ryan's planned day on the lake starts at Scott Jones' property on North Liberty Street where canoes from Motor City Canoe

Rental will be available. The route is under the Belleville Road bridge, then under the Denton Road bridge, along the edge of Hillside Cemetery and to the island, where there will be a stop and an event. Then, they will go back to the docks and end up at the museum to see the exhibit: "Lake Life: The Creation and Recreation on Belleville Lake."

Cost will be \$30 each to pay for use of the canoe, paddle, and personal flotation device. The money raised will be used to continue the event next year. He said members of his Boy Scout troop, who have experience with canoeing, will help and Officer Hayes from Van Buren Township Marine Unit, will monitor the event to make sure speeding motor craft don't endanger the canoeists.

He said people can sign up for the canoes and they can handle 16 people at a time, for a total of 48 people in three blocks.

Ryan showed a picture of a custom T-shirt for all participants, created by Great Lakes Custom Embroidery in Canton.

Ryan, who will turn 18 on March 20, is a junior in BHS' New Tech.

The other three presentations, which are also expected to be put on this year, were:

- "Sauce it Up! Downtown Belleville" – presented by Keith Sanders and Mackenzie Winter – which planned a BBQ cook-off on the Fourth Street Square on June 27. Restaurants and amateurs will compete in their categories. Egan's will sponsor it (Mackenzie is their daughter). Proceeds will be used to keep the project going each

year, with a donation to Forgotten Harvest; • "Belleville Movie Night" – was presented by Marissa Bracey alone, since her partner Adam Good was sick. She told of an evening in the beginning of October when outdoor movies would be shown at Victory, Horizon, or Village park as a Booville Drive-in. She favored a drive-in movie, but logistics were unclear and maybe people would have to get out of their vehicles to sit down and see the films. It would cost \$531 to rent the 20'x12' inflatable movie screen and \$250 for concessions. She planned to run fund raisers to get the rest of the funds needed. There would be a costume contest for those under age 14, basket raffles, and a vote for movies the community wants to see. To suggest a movie, she gave bellevillemovienight@gmail.com. Proceeds would go to St. Jude's Children's Hospital, she said; and

- "The Great Belleville Bake-Off" – presented by Alexia Yost, Ivy Gitzen, and Ashley McNally (Haley Prentiss was on the list in the program, but was not part of the group). This was planned for late September in the Fourth Street Square with the goal of bringing the town together. Baked goods would be made at home and they said the Health Department told them it was OK for a charity event. Dessert items were called for or anything that satisfies the sweet tooth. Recipes, or ingredients, would be displayed for those who have allergies. They expected to get the tent donated and needed money for the prizes. Bakers would pay \$10 to claim a spot and it would be \$5 for admission. Proceeds would go to Friends of Michigan Animal Rescue and New Tech.

Carol Thompson, coordinator of the Belleville DDA, said about the same number of people attended this year's Soup Project meal – about 100 -- as attended last year's, although they had hoped for more this year.

"The people who were supposed to be here were here," she said.

The money diners paid for tickets covered

the catered meal by Angel Food Catering and the extra money was to be sent to the DDA and then come back to the project and New Tech, Thompson said.

BHS New Tech Director Scott Wilsey said New Tech is a student-centered, project-based learning environment.

Thompson said all the work on the Soup Project was not a part of the New Tech school day and all the adults helping after hours were volunteers.

She said those at the Chamber table that night – Alicia McGovern, Randy Brown, and Michael Dotson – talked to each other about funding the non-winners and decided to do so at the last minute.

Wilsey introduced the 2014 Soup Winners, Marissa Higgins and Brittany Jones, whose project -- the Belleville Zombie 5K -- was a great success last October. One said she had her appendix removed then and didn't get to leave the house for the race.

The Belleville Zombie 5K is expected to be run again this October.

2015 Seniors invited to apply for \$1,000 BACA Art Scholarship

The Belleville Area Council for the Arts announces that applications are being accepted for the Senior Art Scholarship for the Class of 2015.

All members of the Belleville High School Class of 2015, as well as residents of Sumpter Township, Van Buren Township and the City of Belleville who are home-schooled equivalents of the Class of 2015, are eligible to apply.

All visual arts media categories are eligible for submission but submissions must have been completed within the last year. Deadline for entry is April 15, 2015.

There will be one winner of the \$1,000 scholarship. All awards will be made to the winning student and the school of their choice. The winner need not be pursuing further education in the Arts to qualify and the scholarship funds must be used within three years after graduation. A certificate of recognition will be presented to the winning entrant at the Senior Awards Banquet if the winning entry is a graduating member of the BHS Class of 2015.

Current BHS students should contact Kathy Knight, Art Department chairwoman at BHS. Non-BHS students should contact BACA directly at president@bellevilleartscouncil.org for entry forms and more information.



They're reading the Independent everywhere

Pat and John Nigg of Belleville toured New Zealand and Australia in January and February, taking along their *Independent* to read. This photo was taken in Alice Springs, Australia.

You, too, are invited to submit a photo of you reading the *Independent* in an exotic location. Please include the name and address of the person you wish to get the free subscription when it is printed. Include your phone number if you want us to let you know just before goes in the paper. A person may use this offer to get a total of two free subscriptions – and no more.

If you aren't going to an exotic location, just send us \$30 for postage to an address inside Michigan or \$35 out of state, and we'll provide mail delivery of the *Independent* so you won't miss a single, exciting issue.

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Belleville Police Chief Hal Berriman showed a new Glock to the city council at its March 2 meeting.

New weapons

(continued from page 16)

\$8,000 for the confiscated weapons and buying of the nine present H&K USP40 pistols. In exchange he will sell to the department 12 Glocks for a total of \$6,492. This price is the Law Enforcement List Price that all dealers sell for and is considerably cheaper than list price, Berriman said.

With that purchase they would have a balance of \$1,508 to buy the proper holsters and other equipment, Berriman said.

"This money would not come out of our budget, nor cost the city/department any additional expenses," Berriman said.

"It is important that our officers are afforded the best equipment to keep them safe and secure and prevent malfunctions from older and wearing equipment," he said. "Also, with the department going to the 9 mm, we would have additional savings in the purchasing of ammunition and two officers will be trained as Armorers in the Glock to help keep down maintenance costs."

Berriman said on Feb. 25 select members of the department did test fire the Glock as well as five other weapons and this weapon was the unanimous choice.

Berriman said they are getting 12 weapons so they will have a few extras for new hires.

Mike Renaud said from the audience that surplus goods are supposed to go to the good of the city budget and not for the police department.

Mayor Kerreen Conley said they are requesting these be sold and others be purchased.

And, it's the Law Enforcement price, Chief Berriman said. "One price, no matter."

"The funds received for this would buy guns and the extra would go to the general fund," Mayor Conley said.

Fire Chief Brian Loranger said the fire department did something similar for old radios.

(continued on page 19)

INDEPENDENT CLASSIFIED ADS

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SEMI TRUCK DRIVER W/CDL-A. Experienced or will train. Dump Trailers. (313) 350-6875. 3/19

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734-697-6159
3 miles south of I-94 at the Rawsonville Exit

Mohawk
734-513-4108
Joy Road between Middlebelt and Inkster

*WAC, Certain restrictions apply. 

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The Belleville-Area Independent New Website is Now Online! Visit us @ bellevilleareaindependent.com

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.



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Hiring Reliable & Dedicated Bus Drivers for Van Buren Public Schools. Starting Pay: \$11.50/hour. Training Available. Call 734-699-5100

RELIEF CARE GIVER for Medical Foster Home. 25 hrs/mo at \$9/hr. Includes 3 Saturday nights. Need background check & CPR Training. bizwiz808080@yahoo.com 3/19

NAIL TECH. Full-set & Fill-in. Will pay top dollar. Pedicure & Manicure. Must have MI License. Experienced Preferred. (734) 502-5629 3/19

EXPERIENCED MAINTENANCE Technician. Plumbing, electrical, carpentry, HVAC preferred, snow removal. Fulltime, on call rotation. Valid driver's license a must. Send resume to sherry@kirkridgeparkcoop.com or fax: (734) 697-8104 3/12

DIESEL MECHANIC: Great Pay / Benefits. APPLY www.durhamschoolservices.com 24661 Lahser Road, Southfield, MI 48033. (248) 352-8755 3/12

RECEPTIONIST NEEDED for Tues 3-8pm, Wed 2-6pm, Thurs 3-8pm, Sat 9-4pm. Call Georgie at Inspirations (734) 697-7007. 4/2

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Call (248) 437-7535 New Hudson Email resume to: recruiter.questserv.org

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We're looking for fun, energetic & caring individuals to assist persons we serve in their homes in the Wixom & Novi communities. \$8.50 total per hr. plus good benefits.

Call (248) 960-9657 or (248) 946-4425 Email resume to: recruiter@questserv.org

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McDonald's Franchisee Seeking Quality Crew & Managers to fill Immediate hourly positions (fast food experience a plus). Open interviews every Tuesday 3-5pm. Apply online at www.mcmichigan.com/18650

**5550 W. Michigan Ave.
Ypsilanti, MI 48197
734.572.1452**

Johnny's Grill Restaurant located on Belleville Lake is looking for experienced Bartenders, Chefs, Pizza Makers, Managers, Dishwashers, Servers and Delivery Drivers. Also need a full time Maintenance Person. Must be reliable. Mail resume to: Johnny's Grill, 146 High St., Belleville, MI 48111 or fax to (734) 699-7847

AREA TRAINEE for local Real Estate Firm. For appointment call (734) 697-1800 TFN

HELP WANTED

INDEPENDENT CLASSIFIED ADS

AUCTION

PUBLIC AUCTION
Saturday,
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at The Q
879 Sumpter Rd.
 Preview 6:30pm, Auction 7:00pm
JNGauctions.com
734-489-4636

ESTATE SALE

ESTATE SALE AT 42907 Winding Pond Trail in Country Pond Estates. March 27, 28 and 29 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Furniture, pictures and other household items. (734) 837-9930 3/26

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Leave Message.
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PHYLLIS SCHRECENGOST
 - SUNSET TRAIL
 You've won a dozen free roses. Pick them up at Main St. Flower's downtown, Belleville. (734) 697-7400 or www.mainstreetflowersbelleville.com TFN

"The American Republic will endure until the day Congress discovers that it can bribe the public with the public's money."
 - Alexis de Tocqueville

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WORK WANTED. I can take you to doctors, shopping, clean house/garage, shovel snow, etc. Asking \$11/hour plus mileage. (734) 697-7506. 3/12

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2 BR/1 BATH. 2 car garage. All appliances. In City limits. \$875 + utilities + security. (734) 635-0065. 3/12

ONE BEDROOM. All utilities included except electricity. One month deposit required. Rent \$625. (313) 790-0498 4/16

"If stupidity got us into this mess, then why can't it get us out?"
 - Will Rogers

Notice to Advertisers:
 The Belleville-Area Independent will not be liable for failure to publish an ad as requested or for more than one incorrect insertion of an advertisement. In the event of any error or omission in printing or publication of an advertisement, you must notify us within five days of publication or on the date of insertion, if an ad is scheduled as part of a package, so there is time to correct subsequent publications. The Independent's liability shall be limited to an adjustment for the cost of the space occupied by the error with a maximum liability being cancellation of the cost of the first incorrect advertisement or republication of the corrected advertisement. Under no circumstances shall the Independent be liable for consequential damages of any kind.

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COMPUTER REPAIRS by experienced college student. Can fix hardware, remove viruses and improve performance. VERY fair prices. Call Royce: (734) 664-8657 3/19

Ryan Samonek on U of M Dearborn Dean's List

Ryan Samonek of Belleville has been named to the Dean's List for the fall 2014 semester in the College of Education, Health and Human Services at the University of Michigan-Dearborn.

Ryan graduated from Belleville High School in 2014 and is in her freshman year at the U of M-Dearborn, where she is studying early childhood development to be a teacher.

Her parents are Shawn and Craig Samonek.

"You have to be odd to be number one."
 - Dr. Seuss

New weapons

(continued from page 18)

The council unanimously approved the service weapons purchase.

In other business at the March 2 meeting, the council:

- Held a public hearing on the transfer of \$39,204 in 2013 CDBG funds to replace the playscape at Village Park to meet the Americans with Disabilities Act and then unanimously approved the transfer;

- Approved, on a 4-1 vote with Councilwoman Kim Tindall voting no, the closing of Main Street between Third and Fifth streets and at the alley on Roys and Fourth each Monday between 5 and 9 p.m. between June 1 and Sept. 28 for the Bayou's annual car show and use of the Fourth Street Square for a beer garden for 11 of those car shows. Brian Copsey said his LCC permit allows 12 outdoor beer gardens a year and he wanted to keep one on hold because he gets no rain days. Councilwoman Tindall generally votes against approving use of alcohol on city property, such as the Fourth Street Square;

- Approved use of the Fourth Street Square for a quilt show and fabric sale between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. on July 18, sponsored by the Bayou Grill. It would be a swap meet-type sale, where people bring in their own tables to sell fabric, yarn, and notions they have. The event will be put in a quilt magazine and the cost will be \$20-\$25, whatever it will cost to cover the magazine ad;

- Removed from the agenda a request for closing High Street for Thunder Rolls in Belleville on May 25 because the person requesting the closing, Kathie Steigerwald, was not present;

- Approved an engagement letter for the 2014/15 annual audit with Alan C. Young & Associates;

- Set two public hearings for March 16 for a proposed transfer of \$2,775 in 2012 CDBG funds and a transfer of \$5,228 in grant planning and administration 2013 CDBG funds for park improvements at Village Park;

- Heard an update on the Downriver Sewer Agreement, which will be on the agenda of the March 16 meeting for action; and

- Approved accounts payable of \$81,384.05 and the following departmental purchases in excess of \$500: to Aqua-line, \$655 for leak detection; to MERC \$700 for a projection study for the police; to MI Power Rodding, \$638 for a water main break; to R&R \$5,769.55 for repair to fire engine #451, \$858.65 for maintenance/inspection of Engine #451, and \$1,163.45 for maintenance/inspection #461; and to SLC \$1,994.52 for replaced meter.

"You can observe a lot just by watching."
 - Yogi Berra

"Don't gamble! Take all your savings and buy some good stock and hold it 'till it goes up, then sell it. If it don't go up, don't buy it."
 - Will Rogers

Sen. Hopgood sets coffee hour for Fri., March 20 at District Library

State Senator Hoon-Yung Hopgood, D – Taylor, invites members of the community to join him at his upcoming coffee hour to discuss state and local issues of concern.

His coffee hour will be held at noon on Friday, March 20, at the Belleville Area District Library, 167 Fourth Street.

Sen. Hopgood represents the new 6th Senate District, which includes Belleville, Brownstown Township, Flat Rock, Huron Township, Rockwood, Romulus, Sumpter Township, Taylor, Van Buren Township, and Westland.

City of Belleville Public Notice

POLICE VEHICLE AUCTION

BELLEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

The Belleville Police Department is accepting sealed bids for the following vehicles:

1984 Chevrolet Celebrity
1997 Ford Escort
1995 Cadillac Deville
2007 Chrysler 300
1999 Chevrolet Lumina
2002 Ford Taurus

The vehicles are being stored at J&T Towing in Belleville. Bids must be in a sealed envelope clearly marked with which vehicle you are bidding on and "Bid for Vehicle." Bids are due in the City Clerk's Office by Friday, March 13, 2015, no later than 4:00 p.m. They will be opened and read publicly at the March 16, 2015 City Council Meeting at Belleville City Hall, 6 Main Street, Belleville, Michigan 48111 in the Council Chambers at 7:30 p.m.

Vehicles may be viewed at J&T Towing, 287 Industrial Park Drive, Belleville, Michigan.

The City reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids and to waive irregularities in the best interest of the City of Belleville.

DATE: February 13, 2015

**PUBLISH: February 26, 2015
March 5, 2015
March 12, 2015**

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

Charter Township of Van Buren Annual Cemetery Cleaning Notice

The Department of Public Works will be conducting its annual spring cleaning at all Township Cemeteries.

Spring Cleaning will begin March 23, 2015 and run through April 2, 2015

Receptacles placed on graves such as flowerpots, religious items and similar objects will be discarded if not removed by March 20, 2015.

New items may be displayed beginning April 3, 2015

Van Buren Township provides maintenance for the following cemeteries:

Denton-49780 Cross St. (Michigan Avenue and Denton Road)
Soop- 49250 Denton Road (South I-94 Service Drive and Denton Road)
Tyler-39820 Tyler Road (Tyler and Hannan Road)
Otisville-41875 Riggs Road

For additional information contact
Department of Public Works 734-699-8925

Leon Wright
Township Clerk

Published: 3-5-15, 3-12-15
Posted: 3-2-15

Huron Charter Township Public Notice

Huron Charter Township Fire Department

Hiring part-time Firefighter/Paramedics

Huron Township located in southeast Wayne County, Michigan is a 36 square mile community which provides to its 15,000 residents a 24 hour Fire/EMS service.

Applicants must have:

- A valid Michigan Paramedics license
- Michigan Fire Fighter 1 & 2 certificate.
- A valid Michigan Hazmat Operations certificate.

Copies of certificates must be included with the application.

When completing Applications include position desired as: Part-time Firefighter.

Applications will be accepted in the Township Clerk's Department at the Municipal Offices, 22950 Huron River Drive, New Boston, MI 48164.

Publish: March 12, 2015

**For Classified Advertising, Display Advertising or News Tips
One call does it all: 734-699-9020 - The Independent**

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Charter Township of Van Buren Planning Commission will hold a public hearing in the Board of Trustees Room, 46425 Tyler Road, Charter Township of Van Buren, and County of Wayne, Michigan, 48111 on **Wednesday, April 8, 2015 at 7:30 p.m.** to consider a temporary land use request on the following described property.

Faith United Methodist Church, **6020 Denton Road**, is the subject of this hearing. This site is located on the west side of Denton Road, south of Michigan Avenue, and east of Gilmore Street.



The applicant, USA Fireworks, Inc. is requesting a Temporary Land Use that extends beyond the allowable seven (7) consecutive days and requires a Public Hearing. This hearing is being held in accordance with the requirements found under the Temporary Land Uses, Buildings, and Structures Section 4.44 of the Zoning Ordinance. Written comments will be accepted by the Planning and Economic Development Department until 4:00 p.m., the hearing date.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, reasonable accommodations will be made available with advance notice.

Posted: March 6, 2015
Published: March 12, 2015

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN BOARD MEETING MINUTES MARCH 3, 2015

Supervisor Combs called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room. Present: Supervisor Combs, Clerk Wright, Treasurer Budd, Trustee Hart, Trustee Jahr, Trustee McClanahan and Trustee Miller. Others in attendance: Secretary Montgomery and an audience of three (3).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Budd moved, Wright seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA: McClanahan moved, Hart seconded to approve the Consent Agenda. [Regular Board Meeting Minutes of February 17, 2015; Work Study Session Minutes of February 17, 2015; Closed Session Minutes of February 17, 2015 Prepaid List of February 20, 2015; Prepaid List of February 26, 2015; Voucher List of March 3, 2015; Approval of Resolution 2015-07 "Prohibition Against Using Accrued Time While Still Working for the Township" Employee

Policy]. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC HEARING: None

CORRESPONDENCE: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: McClanahan moved, Hart seconded to approve the Administrative Assistant/Benefits Coordinator Job Description and approval of the Personal Services Agreement between the Township and Nicole Sumpter to fill the position. Roll Call Vote. Yeas: Combs, Budd, Wright, Hart, Jahr and McClanahan. Nays: Miller. Motion Carried.

REPORTS: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Trustee Miller announced the Wild Game Dinner at Trinity Episcopal Church Saturday, March 14, 2015. Doors open at 4:00, dinner at 5:00. Tickets: \$25 Adult & \$15 age 6-12, children under 5 free. All proceeds to benefit Trinity's Journey to Adulthood upcoming youth program mission trip; Clerk Wright thanked the Van Buren Civic Fund for their generous donation of \$28,000 to complete the wrought iron fencing at Tyler Cemetery. The Civic Fund had also donated the funds needed to start the project and the fence will be fully completed this year; announced that cemetery clean-up will begin March 23, 2015 and run through April 2, 2015. Receptacles placed on graves such as flowerpots, religious

items and similar objects will be discarded if not removed by March 20, 2015. New items may be displayed beginning April 3, 2015. Supervisor Combs reminded residents to "spring forward" by setting their clocks one hour forward on Sunday March 8, 2015.

AUDIENCE (Non-Agenda Items): Trustee McClanahan read a letter from Adam Byrd "resident and community activist" who referenced an article in the *Belleville Area Independent* labeled "7th Annual Report to Taxpayers". The resident was disappointed with the leadership of the township "for allowing an employee to gross \$215,000.00 in a single year" and urged the board to discontinue "wasteful spending". Supervisor Combs response is as follows: Dear Mr. Byrd your correspondence was received by the entire board however it contained some minor misrepresentations. Although we all agree on transparency the salaries, as published, were inaccurate. The cross training of police officers came about as a way to fill vacancies in the fire department at a time when the recruitment of firefighters was at an all-time low. The resulting blended rate pay was a mandate from the Police Officers Labor Council union based on a federal ruling that provides a premium rate for those persons performing both jobs. The problem was exacerbated recently by the Affordable Care Act which limits the use of part-time employees such as paid on call firefighters to 29 hours a week. The Township Board and the Public Safety Director continue to work diligently to find solutions for this issue. For example we recently passed a resolution that no longer allows persons to be employed in more than one position within the Township. Tonight we passed a resolution to prevent dual employed persons for using accrued leave time to work the other position. We have also passed an 18 hour policy which says that police and fire personnel can only work 18 consecutive hours after which they must take at least a 6 hour break. The Public Safety Director and his staff are looking at policy revisions as well. We are currently in contract negotiations with the POLC and the Michigan Association of Fire Fighters and are exploring further ways to deal effectively with this issue. As an employed Police Officer and President of the POLC local you certainly are in a position to be part of the solution. The Van Buren Township Board is not engaged in wasteful spending. We are, in fact, stretching the dollars as far as possible but in doing so we must adhere to the collective bargaining agreements and therefore are compelled by law to honor the blended rate until another is option is discovered. We have made significant progress with the policy adjustments and resolutions that have been implemented. As with all Township residents we appreciate your concern and commitment to making Van Buren Township great place to live, work and play. Sincerely Supervisor and Board of Trustees.

ADJOURNMENT: Miller moved, McClanahan seconded to adjourn at 7:27 p.m. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Leon Wright, Township Clerk

Linda H. Combs, Township Supervisor

Published: March 12, 2015

Minding Your Business with Bob Mytych



Spring is here according to two of our favorite summertime pastimes here in Downtown Belleville. **A & W** on West Columbia and **Frosty Boy Ice Cream** on Main Street are now open for another year. A&W is offering fish sandwiches for \$2.99 and 21-piece shrimp baskets for \$4.99. Call (734) 699-1800. Frosty Boy is open seven days serving up its non-dairy sorbet, sugar-free yogurt, and other traditional ice creams. Call (734) 699-7188.

The **Leo's Coney Island** on Belleville Road just reopened last Monday and the owner and wait staff said that they've been busier than ever and they thank the community for their patience as they recovered from water damage. See their ad in today's paper for some neat coupon deals. Call (734) 697-1000.

The **Wayne County Fairgrounds** on Quirk Road is celebrating **St. Patrick's Day** with its annual **Irish Corned Beef Dinner** this Saturday, March 14, starting at 6 p.m. The cost is \$12 per dinner. Proceeds for the event go to the upkeep of the fairgrounds. Call (734) 697-7002

The **Romulus Athletic Center** on Romulus is celebrating its 7th birthday on Sunday, March 22, from noon until 6 p.m. The event is free for RAC members, \$7 for non-members. Activities include a bounce house, a DJ at the pools, free fitness classes. Contests and pool games, membership giveaways, and more. Call (734) 942-2223 or visit www.romulusathleticcenter.com.

Inspirations Salon on Belleville Road next to Penzoil is holding a salon fundraiser on Sunday, March, 22, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. to benefit the family of **Cassie Campbell**, a client who lost her battle to cancer on March 9. Special salon services include Shellacs for \$15, women's haircuts for \$20, Men's haircuts for \$15, Kids' cuts for \$10, a bake sale, 50/50, gift baskets and raffles. Call (734) 697-7007.

The **Belleville Church of God** on Hull Road is accepting requests for free food from its pantry on March 26. The church gives away some perishable and non-perishables the third Thursday of each month. Call **Joanne** at (734) 697-1142 to reserve some or call the church at (734) 697-0927.

With the planning of Sumpter Fest and Strawberry Festival already under way, we also are working on advertising packages for the official, keepsake program for the festivals. Watch this column for more details in the weeks to come.

City of Belleville Public Notice

INVITATION TO BID CITY OF BELLEVILLE WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN 2015 CLEAN WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND (SRF) SANITARY SEWER REHABILITATION PROGRAM

The City of Belleville is accepting proposals for the
2015 CLEAN WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND (SRF) SANITARY SEWER
REHABILITATION PROGRAM
in City of Belleville, Wayne County, Michigan

The proposed project consists of approximately 2,460 linear feet of full length cured-in-place pipe lining; cured-in-place pipe being installed within sewers ranging from 8 inches to 15 inches in diameter, 26 sectional cured-in-place liners ranging in length from 10 feet to 35 feet ; cured-in-place pipe being installed within sewers ranging from 6 inches to 18 inches in diameter throughout the City and 1 sectional removal and replacement of 8 inch sewer approximately 15 feet in length. In addition, 35 manholes will be rehabilitated throughout the City. The anticipated start date, weather permitting, is July 15, 2015 and substantially completed by December 15, 2015 with final completion by December 31, 2015.

Bids will be received by:

Lisa Long, Clerk/Treasurer
City of Belleville
6 Main Street
Belleville, Michigan 48111

Until **Monday, April 20, 2015 at 3:00 PM** (local time)

Bids shall be publicly opened and read at the regular City Council meeting to be held on:

Monday, April 20, 2015 at 7:30 PM (local time) at:
City of Belleville
6 Main Street
Belleville, Michigan 48111

The Contract Documents may be examined at the City of Belleville Clerk's Office, Belleville, Michigan, Hennessey Engineers, Inc., Southgate, Michigan, Construction Association of Michigan, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, Constructions News Service, Oakbrook, Illinois and Construction News Corp, Cleveland, Ohio

Contract Documents will be available starting **Thursday, March 19, 2015 after 1:00pm** and may be purchased at: **Hennessey Engineers, Inc., 13500 Reec Road, Southgate, Michigan, 48195** upon payment of a fee of \$30.00 per set, \$40.00 if mailed, which is nonrefundable.

Please contact Hennessey Engineers at 734-759-1600, 24 hours in advance to request a hard copy. Also, plans are now available on CD for a fee of \$10.00 per CD or if mailed, \$20.00.

Bidders must deposit, with their bid, surety in the form of a certified check, bank draft, or bid bond, in the sum of five percent (5%) of the amount of the proposal. The OWNER reserves the right to waive any information or to reject any and/or all bids. Bidders may not withdraw their bid within 90 days after the date of bid opened.

City of Belleville
Lisa Long, Clerk/Treasurer

Publish: 3-12-1015

**The Belleville-Area
Independent New Website
is Now Online! Visit us @
bellevilleareaindependent.com
Read The Newspaper
On The Web!**

Things to do in the Belleville area...

- **Throughout the month of March** – Quilt Show at the Belleville Area Museum.
- **Thursday, March 12** – “The Wonders and Religions of India” with Hilary Savage is the free Homegrown Knowledge presentation at 7 p.m. at the Belleville Area District Library.
- **Friday, March 13** – A Bed Turning with Marjorie Fromm at the Quilt Show at the Belleville Area Museum. Museum open noon-4 p.m. Cost \$2.
- **Friday, March 13** – All Free Friends Family Theater Movie Night at 7 p.m. at the Youth Center, 7890 Tuttle Hill Road, at Bemis Road, Ypsilanti. Bounce House at 6:30 p.m. Includes free food. “Mantle of Granny Bell,” 2014, 168 minutes. Also, a movie about how can culinary differences possibly get along? 2014, 122 minutes. Questions? (734) 482-5074. Previews: www.friendsfamilytheater.com
- **Saturday, March 14** – A free class in Bollyfit dance begins at 10 a.m. at the Belleville Area District Library. The class is free, but a \$5 deposit is required at the time of registration. Sign up starts March 2.
- **Saturday, March 14** – A Bed Turning with Pat Sisler at the Quilt Show at the Belleville Area Museum. Museum open noon-4 p.m. Cost \$2.
- **Saturday, March 14** – Sumpter Township residents can bring their dogs to the Animal Shot Clinic from 1 to 4 p.m. in the pole barn across from township hall. Rabies shots are \$15; distemper/parvo combination, \$22; dog licenses \$5, \$7.
- **Sunday, March 15** – The Ypsilanti Moose Lodge, 5506 Stoney Creek, Ypsilanti, is hosting a spaghetti dinner fund raiser from 1 to 5 p.m. to benefit Lexy, a 5-year-old girl with a stage four brain tumor. Ticket donation is \$10. Information: Colleen (734) 487-7880.
- **Monday, March 16** – Susan Anderson will speak about butterfly gardens and the butterfly garden at the Van Buren Senior Center at 7 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church. This is the March meeting of the Belleville Area Garden Club and you are invited to attend.
- **Wednesday, March 18** – At 7 p.m. at the Van Buren Township Hall, Dr. David Wilson will give a report to the VBT Environmental Commission on the dangers to health of coal tar-based driveway sealers. The public is invited to attend.
- **Thursday, March 19** – Free Quilt Lecture at 6 p.m. at the Belleville Area District Library.
- **Thursday, March 19** – BHS Productions presents the musical “Little Shop of Horrors” at BHS Auditorium at 7 p.m., with pizza, salad, dessert and beverage available for \$5 before the show, 5:30-7 p.m. Ticket cost is \$10 for adults, \$8 for students and seniors.

Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

The following are selected calls for VBT Police.

Sunday, March 1:

0121 – assault & battery, Oak Ln.
0239 – noise complaint, Lake Point Blvd.
0238 – noise complaint, Lake Villa Dr.
0536 – assault & battery, Belmont Dr.
0947 – property damage accident, Hoefu/Martz
1006 – unauthorized driving away of vehicle, Denton Rd.
1117 – hospice, Ponderosa Trail S.
1145 – holdup alarm, Greenbriar Dr.
1548 – mental, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1654 – juvenile complaint, Milton Dr.
1855 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / Tyler Rd.
2125 – neighbor trouble, W. Archwood Dr.
2213 – noise complaint, Westlake

Monday, March 2:

0102 – harassment call, Denton Rd.
0301 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
0739 – property damage accident, Denton Rd./Beckley Rd.
0753 – private property accident, W. Huron River
0830 – larceny from auto, Bell Square
0948 – private property accident, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1200 – shots fired, Haggerty Rd./Ecorse Rd.
1254 – personal injury accident, Haggerty/I-94
1338 – private property accident, W. Huron River
1750 – assault & battery, Hull Rd.
1830 – personal injury accident, Belleville/Robson
1913 – juvenile complaint, Belleville Rd.
1920 – disturbance, Belleville Rd.
1935 – missing person, Country Walk Blvd.
2102 – intimidation threat, Maple Dr.
2210 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.

Tuesday, March 3:

0834 – property damage accident, S. I-94 Service Dr. / Hoyt
0924 – assault & battery, Oak Ln.
1024 – larceny from auto, Oak Ln.
1144 – larceny, Parkwood Dr.
1231 – property damage accident, EB I-94 / Rawsonville
1413 – personal injury accident, Ecorse Rd. / Kirkridge Park Dr.
1455 – private property accident, Parkwood Dr.
1514 – intimidation threat, Buchanan St.
1935 – harassment call, Oak Ln.
1943 – water leak found, Belleville
2019 – property damage accident, Michigan Ave. / Denton Rd.
2033 – fight, Elwell Rd.
2211 – property damage accident, Michigan / bypass

Wednesday, March 4:

0701 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Landmark
0932 – fraud, Hannan Rd.
1210 – property damage accident, Elwell Rd.
1313 – malicious destruction of property, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1405 – private property accident, Belleville Rd.
1509 – fraud, Denton
1619 – mental, N. Ponderosa Trl.
1631 – disorderly conduct, Hull Rd.
1711 – property damage accident, N. I-94 Service Dr. / Belleville Rd.
1822 – suicide or attempt, Quirk Rd.
2337 – suspicious person, Rose

Thursday, March 5:

0003 – assault & battery, Lighthouse Dr.
0035 – water leak found, Robson Rd.
0101 – suicide or attempt, Sylvia Dr.
0735 – breaking & entering, Birch Dr.
1251 – juvenile complaint, McBride
1300 – larceny, Park Estates
1430 – property damage accident, Haggerty Rd. / E. Huron River Dr.
1615 – intimidation threat, Shell gas station
1730 – disturbance, Richard Run
1811 – disturbance, Richard Run
1820 – private property incident, Express Tire
2034 – suicide or attempt, Arthur St.
2228 – agency assist, Rawsonville/Textile
2232 – property damage accident, Van Buren St.
2249 – assault & battery, Ash Dr.

Friday, March 6:

0041 – operating while intoxicated, Belleville Rd. / S. I-94 Service Dr.
0738 – property damage accident, Taco Bell Rawsonville
1221 – fraud, Rawsonville
1602 – fraud, Tyler Rd.
1702 – water leak found, Borgman Ave.
1850 – harassment call, Mida
2026 – agency assist, Harmony Ln.
2143 – PPO violation, Ventura Dr.
2153 – weapons violation, S. I-275/Ecorse

Saturday, March 7:

0248 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Ventura
0254 – property damage accident, Haggerty/Huron River Dr.
0347 – kidnapping, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0419 – suspicious situation, Belleville BP
1217 – property damage accident, Endicott Ave.
1402 – intimidation threat, Winding Pond Dr.
1405 – larceny, Denton Rd.
1528 – breaking & entering, Maple Dr.
1717 – property damage accident, Belleville / Meijer
1806 – suspicious person, Huron River Dr.
1829 – retail fraud, Belleville
1936 – property damage accident, N. I-94 Service Dr./Oak Ln.
2202 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
2256 – private property accident, McBride Ave.
2302 – intimidation threat, Lighthouse Dr.

Also on this week’s log are 246 traffic stops, 86 of which were on the I-94 or I-275 freeways.

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, March 1:

0214 – all other traffic, Lakeview Tavern
0833 – suspicious situation, Loza Ln.
0952 – water leak found, Robbe/Clarence
1038 – civil matter, Loza Ln.
1307 – assist fire dept., South St.
1359 – domestic assault, Loza Ln.
1936 – civil matter, Main St.
2059 – follow up, Menlo Park Dr.

Monday, March 2:

1055 – civil matter, Loza Ln.
1530 – assist fire dept., Third St.
1904 – warrant arrest, Dearborn Hts. PD
2028 – welfare check, Frosty Boy
2225 – disturbance, Carmell St.

Tuesday, March 3:

0042 – suspicious situation, E. Columbia Ave.
0410 – intrusion alarm, W. Columbia Ave.
0650 – assist fire dept., N. Liberty
0742 – assist fire dept., Santa Clara St.
0915 – hospice, Belle Villa Blvd.
1544 – parking complaint, Thornhill
1603 – property check, E. Waterbury Ct.
1641 – assist fire dept., Brain St.

Wednesday, March 4:

0855 – abandoned auto, South St.
0920 – assist fire dept., Carmell St.
1122 – warrant arrest, Westland PD
1726 – parking complaint, Belle Villa Blvd.
1741 – vehicle lockout, S. Industrial Park Dr.
1821 – E-911 cellular, Third St.

Thursday, March 5:

1034 – juvenile complaint, S. Edgemont Ave.
1213 – background information, Main St.
1415 – found property, Main St.
1852 – welfare check, Clarence St.
2019 – suspicious person, Main St./Third St.
2049 – information, Main St.
2113 – E-911 hang up/investigation, W. Columbia

Friday, March 6:

0354 – intrusion alarm, W. Columbia Ave.
0946 – found property, Main St.
1314 – vehicle lockout, South St.
1645 – disturbance, Loza Ln.
1753 – larceny, W. Columbia Ave.
1754 – vehicle lockout, Citgo
1854 – assist fire dept., Robbe St.
2115 – suspicious situation, Charter One
2126 – intimidation threat, Belle Villa Blvd.

Saturday, March 7:

0214 – assist fire dept., San Carlos St.
0249 – vehicle lockout, Henry St.
0922 – assist fire dept., Sumpter Rd.

1032 – suspicious person, Davenport
1157 – civil matter, Henry St.
1226 – welfare check, W. Columbia Ave.
Also on this week’s log are 74 traffic stops.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, March 1:

0212 – disorderly person, 43000 bl. Arkona Rd.
0804 – fire dept. assist, 51000 bl. Wear Rd.
1517 – fire dept. assist, California

Monday, March 2:

1133 – animal complaint, 20000 bl. Wilmot Rd.
1506 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1532 – found property, 23000 bl. Martinsville
1722 – suspicious vehicle, 29000 bl. Martinsville
1734 – warrant arrest, Montana
1844 – property damage accident, 45000 bl. Dunn
1905 – violation public health code, 21000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2219 – death investigation, 44000 bl. Dunn Rd.
2328 – warrant pickup, out of township

Tuesday, March 3:

0857 – fire dept. assist, 22000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
1046 – warrant arrest, Second St.
1119 – assault, 6700 bl. Oakville Waltz Rd.
1215 – larceny, New Mexico
1237 – property damage accident, Rawsonville / Judd
1252 – fire dept. assist, 40000 bl. Willis Rd.
1319 – fire dept. assist, 9800 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1407 – suspicious incident, 19000 bl. Clark Rd.
1640 – traffic hazard, Clark/Willis
1704 – fire dept. assist, 21000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
1734 – missing person report, 48000 bl. Bemis Rd.

Wednesday, March 4:

0001 – shots fired, Rawsonville/Oakville Waltz
0637 – alarm, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0733 – property damage accident, Clark/S. Huron
0752 – assist other agency, out of township
1048 – animal complaint, 17000 bl. Lohr Rd.
1110 – citizen assist, Clark/S. Huron Rd.
1405 – fire dept. assist, 18000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1422 – citizen assist, 23000 Sumpter Rd.
1654 – alarm, 24000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2038 – civil dispute, 22000 bl. Clark Rd.
2349 – disorderly person, 28000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

Thursday, March 5:

0631 – fire dept. assist, 46000 bl. Wear Rd.
0800 – 911 hang up, 46000 bl. Wear Rd.
1236 – 911 hang up, 25000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1401 – fire dept. assist, Iowa
1448 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Judd Rd.
1558 – civil dispute, 21000 bl. Wilmot Rd.

Friday, March 6:

0703 – fire dept. assist, Edgewood
0953 – civil dispute, 46000 bl. Wear Rd.
1228 – neighbor dispute, 17000 bl. Savage Rd.
1251 – alarm, 24000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1257 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1354 – animal complaint, 51000 bl. Arkona Rd.
1629 – found property, 10000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1711 – alarm, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1817 – subpoena service, 44000 bl. Paris Dr.
1845 – animal complaint, 17000 bl. Savage Rd.
2017 – fire dept. assist, 48000 bl. Harris Rd.
2034 – suspicious incident, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2357 – suspicious vehicle, 25000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

Saturday, March 7:

0923 – reckless driver complaint, Rawsonville / Judd
1153 – suspicious incident, 24000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1432 – animal complaint, Haggerty/Bemis
1509 – family trouble, 41000 bl. Wear Rd.
1603 – citizen assist, First St.
1648 – alarm, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1830 – juvenile complaint, Second St.
1837 – traffic hazard, 47000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1941 – harassment complaint, 45000 bl. Bemis Rd.
2132 – suspicious incident, 45000 bl. Willis Rd.
2217 – operating while intoxicated arrest, 17ii000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

Also on this week’s log are 13 follow-up investigations, 27 miscellaneous details, 116 property checks, and 43 traffic stops.

“Out of clutter, find simplicity.”
– Albert Einstein

34th District Court workers reach out to help former Romulus cop

On Feb. 27 a group of volunteers from the 34th District Court put on a pancake breakfast for former Romulus Police Officer Clifford West and earned \$3,400 for the family. Judge Brian A. Oakley flipped the flapjacks. Officer West was diagnosed with Inclusion Body Myositis, an incurable and progressively degenerative muscle disease. Besides court workers, other volunteers pitched in to help. Belleville Police Chief Hal Berriman and Huron Township Chief Robbins attended and retired chief Gene Taylor helped sell tickets.



Photo by Michelle Wild

BHS Productions to present 'Little Shop of Horrors' March 19-21

Belleville High School Productions will present the musical "Little Shop of Horrors" at the high school auditorium March 19, 20, and 21.

This year's student production will also feature three days of food before the show and after the matinee to raise funds for three groups.

Evening performances are at 7 p.m. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, March 19, 20, and 21. Adult tickets are \$10 and students and seniors are \$8.

A matinee performance is set for 2 p.m., Saturday, March 21. A matinee discount offers \$2 off all tickets.

On Thursday, March 19, pizza with salad, dessert and beverage will be available for \$5 in the BHS Commons from 5:30 to 7 p.m., benefitting the BHS Senior Class.

On Friday, March 20, the fare is all-you-can-eat pancakes with sausage and applesauce available for \$7 to benefit BHS Baseball from 5:30 to 8 p.m.

On Saturday, March 21, a Mexican Fiesta will be held from 4 to 7 p.m., between the matinee and evening performances, at a cost of \$7 to benefit the VBPS Education Foundation.

Cast members in the musical are:
Justine Bradley - Voice of the Plant
Demeatry Brooks - Customer
Bianca Crowder - Back-up Singer
Lindsey Dailey - Ronnette

Kaitlyn Fujii – Back-up Singer
Tyler Kearns – Seymour
Ethan Klobucar – Orin
Sebastian Baker – Chinese Man
Kaitlyn Plummer – Chiffon
Elijah Pope – Mushnik
Briana Powe – Crystal
Madison Schaekel – Audrey
Devon Stakely, Sierra Stockwell, Ryan Waisanen – Townspersons / Chorus
Rebecca Washington – Back-up Singer

Tech

Karissa Attard – Master Techie
Eric Brooks, Sara Guevara, Isabelle Schaekel, Megan Seay, Olivia McRitchie – Techies

Pit

Alexa Porcaro, Seamus Sloan – keyboards

Cameron Owen – drums

John O'Brian – guitar

Gavin Schulz – bass

Directors

Director - Larry Koch
Assistant Director - Michael Gearn
Tech Director – Yvette Kashmer
Music Director – Nick Taylor
Vocal Director – Sue Hiser
Choreographer – Ashley Testorelli
Sudent Director: Sebastian Baker

The box office opens one hour prior to showtime. For ticket information call (734) 697-9133, ext. 2072.

"If a black cat crosses your path,
it signifies that the animal is going
somewhere."
– Groucho Marx

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Estates

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Mohawk

734-513-4108

Joy Road between
Middlebelt and Inkster

*WAC, Certain restrictions apply.





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BUY AS LOW AS \$14,483



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BUY AS LOW AS \$18,599



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BELLEVILLE LAKE



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BELLEVILLE LAKE



44233 HARMONY LANE, VAN BUREN
BELLEVILLE LAKE FRONT ESTATE. Indoor olympic pool & whirlpool, multiple fireplaces, skylights, large bath with bidet, family room with fireplace, 4 1/2 baths and 5 bedrooms. Many newer improvements, 350 ft lake frontage on 2+ acres with boathouse and tennis court. This is a Castle to make one feel like Royalty. HUGE PRICE CHANGE - NOW \$599,000



42435 N CUMBERLAND, VAN BUREN
A FAVORITE OF ALL Who See It! Outstanding three bedroom, Two and One Half Bath Brick Colonial. Open Family Room, Larger Master Bedroom & Premium Master Bath and Updated Kitchen. Expansive Living Room-Dining Area and Full Basement. An open rear yard finds a deep green lawn - Manicured Salon Style. Offering a Measureless Value. \$184,900



9019 COGSWELL, ROMULUS
WAKE UP TO EXCITEMENT EVERY MORNING in this 4,900 sf masterpiece. Only the finest of construction with 4 large bedrooms, 3 full and 2 half baths, 2 fireplaces, marble floors, 2 master bedrooms with Jacuzzis, finished basement, 2 bars, 3 car attached and 2 car detached garages. On 4 manicured acres. This home is one of the finest in style and quality. \$499,900.



19350 SUMPTER RD, SUMPTER TWP
GREAT LOCATION with little competition. 4,100+ square foot set up for a bar/ restaurant or pizzeria. Most equipment could be included. Looks great and shows even better. Plenty of parking on 2+ acres. A Best Buy investment property at only \$387,000



991 E HURON RIVER DR, VAN BUREN
MULTIPLES OF VALUE ARE PRESENT IN This Larger 1,571 Sq Ft Custom Built 2 Bedroom, 2 Bath Home. Featuring Open Kitchen-Dining-Living Room, Gas Fireplace in Family Room, 90+ Furnace, Deck, Shed, 2 1/2 Car Attached Garage on .92 Acre Parcel. This is One Wins the I Love Clean Contest! \$159,900.

VACANT LAND - BUILD YOUR DREAM
AUGUSTA TOWNSHIP
MCKEAN & SHERYL 11.96 ACRE \$89,500
VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP
14435 HAGGERTY 1.42 ACRES \$24,900
BOG RD VAN BUREN .55 ACRES \$29,750
49809 BOG 2.74 ACRES \$49,500
5900 DELLOR 1.81 ACRES \$40,000
SUMPTER TOWNSHIP
49317 ARKONA 40.28 ACRES \$180,000
ELWELL 19.34 AC (WAS \$150,000) \$95,000
25817 SUMPTER RD .97 ACRES \$20,000
26960 SHERWOOD 2.5 ACRES \$30,000
VACANT SUMPTER 7.46 ACRES \$30,000
RAWSONVILLE 12 ACRES \$94,900
WEAR ROAD 10 ACRES \$49,900
ROMULUS
COGSWELL ROMULUS .71 ACRES \$35,000
BELLEVILLE
337 MAIN .32 ACRES 83X165 \$79,500



1674 DOROTHY, YPSILANTI
BOOMING WITH ROOM! Gigantic 2,800+ Square Foot 4 Bedroom 2 Bath Home with open Kitchen, Dining Room and Entry Mudroom. Large Room Sizes with Huge 27x19 Master Bedroom including Fireplace and Bigger Master Bath. 27x20 Family Room with Second Fireplace and Rear Yard Walkout. \$115,000.



500 HURON RIVER DR, BELLEVILLE
HIGHEST QUALITY! Brick Commercial building in the City of Belleville. Former florist, coffee house, and bakery with potential for immediate franchise opportunity. The quality, potential and design of this newer (2002) constructed building are beyond description. \$750,000 (or \$18.00 square ft - triple net lease)